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POLITICAL, SOCIOLOGICAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

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19 January 1984

CHINA REPORT

POLITICAL, SOCIOLOGICAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

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GENERAL

PRC JOURNAL VIEWS RELATIONS BETWEEN U.S., EUROPE

HK170648 Beijing GUOJI WENTI YANJIU in Chinese No. 4, Oct 83 pp 31-36

[Article by Huang Suan [7806 4790 1658]: "Atlantic Alliance Going Through New Severe Tests"]

[Text] At the end of the 1970's, relations between the United States and Europe entered a period of extraordinary tension. Disputes, conflicts, and mutual distrust between them were reflected in their economic, political, and strategic relations. An ever-increasing economic contradiction has played a decisive role in this strained relationship. For a rather long period to come, economic problems will be the key problems which will test and affect the destiny and prospects of the Atlantic alliance.

1. The Economic Contradictions Within the Alliance Become Unprecedentedly Acute

Prior the 1970's, in the economic system of the Western world, because the United States, while maintaining a position of special privilege or a position of economic hegemony, also undertook a certain responsibility of assisting other Western nations to solve economic difficulties and of maintaining the world economic system, it was comparatively easy to tackle the economic problems between the United States and Europe. In the 1970's, with the decline of the economic strength of the United States and the disintegration of the Western economic system, the United States, while striving to maintain its position of special privilege, gradually shirked its obligatory duties and, as a result, economic relations between the United States and Europe became gradually strained. Entering the 1980's, the United States not only endeavored to further strengthen its position of special privilege and to shirk its obligatory duties, but also made use of its position of special privilege to harm the economic interests of the West European countries. As the result of the resistance and struggle of the West European countries, the economic contradictions between the United States and Europe entered a new stage. The economic contradictions between the United States and Europe have now reached a high degree not witnessed since the end of the war in terms of their extensive, intensive, and persistent nature.

First of all, the economic contradictions between the United States and Europe are reflected not only in the economic policy concerning the field

of circulation such as finance, currency, and trade, but also in economic policy concerning the field of production such as industry, agriculture, and energy resources; and they involve both economic relations with foreign countries and economic relations within each particular country.

With respect to finance and currency, beginning October 1979 when the United States Government decided to treat anti-inflation as its primary objective in policy and used control over the supply of currency as a major means of realizing this objective, low interest rates and the fixed exchange rate or low exchange rate of the U.S. dollar, which were favorable to the economic growth of the West and which had been practiced by the United States for a long time in the past, were gradually changed to a high interest rate and a high exchange rate of the U.S. dollar, which aggravated the economic difficulties of the West. During this period, U.S. interest rates reached an unprecedented high, soaring to 21.5 percent in 1980. At the same time, there emerged a situation of fluctuation never experienced in history: In the 30 years between 1940 and 1970, there were 33 changes in the U.S. interest rate, while in the 2 years between 1980 and 1981, the number of changes was recorded as 65. ("WORLD TODAY," February 1983, p 47) Under the impact of high interest rates, the U.S. dollar exchange rate also soared drastically and fluctuated. From 1979 to May 1983, the real exchange rate of the U.S. dollar against 15 other principal currencies was raised by 22.2 percent. (Morgan Guaranty Trust Company: "World's Monetary Market," June 1983) This situation gravely exacerbated the difficulties of the West European countries in terms of finance, currency, trade, and production, and for a long time placed them in a dilemma: either they had to raise their interest rates correspondingly and aggravate the state of overproduction, or they had to lower the exchange rate of their own currency, thereby raising the prices of imported commodities and prompting inflation.

With respect to trade, since the beginning of the 1980's, the United States has gradually turned itself from being an advocator of "free trade" in the past to being a bastion of protectionism. At present, although the U.S. tariff is comparatively low, its nontariff barrier is very high, and ever higher than that of other Western countries: the United States has established an important nontariff barrier against 34 percent of the imports of manufactured goods; the corresponding percentage of France is 33 percent; Britain, 22 percent; West Germany, 20 percent; Canada, 10 percent; and Japan, 7 percent. ("LOS ANGELES TIMES," 31 January 1983) At present, one of the focuses of trade struggle between the United States and Europe is the issue of export subsidies, which is mainly manifested in trade of iron and steel as well as agricultural products. At first, the United States, on the grounds that Western Europe granted subsidies to their exports of steel material, threatened to impose duties on the steel material to offset the subsidies, and afterward it utilized the quota system to restrict the import of steel material from Western Europe. In addition, the United States also demanded that Western Europe abolish the subsidy system on the grounds that Western Europe snatched on the world market the share of American agricultural products by means of subsidies. Furthermore, since the beginning of this year, the United States has also made use of export subsidies to boost sales

of its agricultural products at reduced prices on markets in North Africa such as Egypt and in the Middle East countries, thus grabbing the traditional market of Western Europe. The struggles of subsidies, antisubsidies, and anti-antisubsidies between the United States and Europe have developed to a white-hot degree.

With respect to economic relations with the USSR, in the periods from freeze, unfreezing, to detente, the United States and Europe were able to basically maintain a coordinated policy. At the later stage of the Carter administration, in its sanctions against the USSR because of the latter's invasion of Afghanistan, the United States failed to obtain the close cooperation of Western Europe, with the result that differences emerged in their relations. But under the condition that Western Europe gave its assurance not to interfere in the U.S. actions, both sides could still maintain a parallel policy toward the USSR. However, after 1981, the Reagan administration resolutely demanded that the West European countries follow the United States in imposing economic sanctions against the USSR and, while it sold large quantities of wheat to the USSR, attempted to stop Western Europe's transaction of natural gas pipeline equipment worth up to \$10 billion. It continued, after failing in this attempt, to ask Western Europe to strengthen limitations on the USSR in terms of credit and transfer of technology according to the conditions put forward by the United States, and it further asked Western Europe to freeze the quantity of natural gas purchased from the USSR at the existing level. Thus, with regard to economic policy toward the USSR, the United States and the West European countries have become increasingly divergent.

Secondly, especially grave is the fact that the economic policy and demands of the United States have infringed upon the economic self-decision rights of the West European countries to a certain extent and have impaired their fundamental interests.

In the 1980's, because the U.S. economy still accounts for over 40 percent of the total of the developed capitalist world, the special role of the U.S. dollar in the Western economic system has not been weakened but further strengthened. In addition, because of the greater degree of mutual economic dependence in the Western countries, the economy policy of the United States exerts a more intensive influence on the economy of other Western countries, leading to the fact that they can hardly adopt any important policy or action single-handedly which can have a direct bearing on the direction of economic development. An evident proof of this is the failure of the Mitterrand government within the first year of its attempt to take unilateral action to activate the economy. Therefore, in this sense, the economic policies of Britain, France, and West Germany do not depend, to a considerable extent, on London, Paris, or Bonn, but on Washington. However, the U.S. Government disregards this objective fact and persistently emphasizes that the U.S. economic policy can only start from the economic interests of the United States, demanding that the economic policies of other countries should be compatible with the American economic policy. All this cannot but anger the West European countries.

That the United States asks Western Europe to cancel subsidies on steel material and on agricultural products not only can undermine the entire subsidy system of Western Europe which is for enhancing the competitive power of their industrial and agricultural products on foreign markets, but also intervenes directly in their internal industrial policy as well as the policy of unified economy. Furthermore, it may sabotage the common agricultural policy which is the "cornerstone" that played an important role in joining France with West Germany and in setting up the European Community.

Last year, in accordance with the U.S. "act for the management of export trade" enacted in 1979, which authorized the President the right to implement the so-called "control of policy toward foreign countries," Reagan was prepared to impose punishment on those American subsidiary companies based in Europe which participated in the supply contract of the transaction of the gas pipes between Europe and the USSR, and on those European companies which obtained the U.S. patent in the production of the pipes. That is to say, the application of the internal law was extended overseas, a practice which was condemned by Western Europe as a practice of "extraterritoriality." It should be noted that about one-half of the direct investment of the United States is in Western Europe, the large transnational corporations and transnational banks of the United States have their branches in Western Europe, controlling a large portion of the industrial production and banking activities in Western Europe, and local companies in Western Europe also have close connections with the U.S. corporations in terms of capital and technology. Western Europe was worried that if this example was to go on unchecked, the U.S. Government might use it, at any time and in any place, to extensively interfere in the foreign economic relations of Western Europe. It is easily understandable that this action by the United States, which involved the national interests of the West European countries, was resolutely opposed by the West European countries.

Lastly, the current economic contradiction between the United States and Europe is deep-rooted and difficult to resolve within a short time. This contradiction reached a height in 1982, and was mitigated somewhat afterward, but in fact it was not resolved. The conflict over high interest rates has been going on for 3 years. In the next 3 or 5 years, because the financial deficits of the U.S. Government will be on the increase, it will be hard for the interest rates in the United States to show a decline. Recently, the exchange rate of the U.S. dollar has again reached a new height. With regard to the trade problem of agricultural products, U.S.-European negotiations have been going on for more than half a year, yet to no avail. In May this year, the summit talks on economy held by seven Western countries pledged to put a check on protectionism. However, not long after, fierce wrangling erupted once again between the United States and Europe over the limitation imposed on imports of special steel from Western Europe. In particular, according to the draft amendment of the "act for the management of export trade," which will expire in September this year, submitted by the U.S. President to Congress for debate, the authorization for the President to conduct "safety control" and "control of policy toward foreign countries," that is, the authorization to conduct possible "extraterritoriality," will

not be weakened but will possibly be further strengthened. ("WORLD TODAY," July-August 1983, p 295) It is quite obvious that the economic contradiction between the United States and Europe will tend to become increasingly greater.

22 Behind the Intensifying Economic Contradiction

That the economic contradiction between the United States and Europe has developed to the present stage is a long-term process, but its main root lay in the serious economic crisis from 1979 to 1982 which was unprecedented since the war. This economic crisis greatly motivated the struggles of the capitalist countries for strengthening the existing and future power for survival and for maining advantageous positions, and also greatly aggravated the struggles of control and anticontrol of economy between the United States and Europe.

From a short-term point of view, the economic crisis aggravated the struggle between the United States and Europe for shifting responsibilities onto each other. The crisis from 1979 to 1982 experienced by the United States and Europe was a crisis caused by inflation interwoven with overproduction. Especially in the United States, at the initial state of its crisis of overproduction, its inflation rate exceeded the average level of inflation of OECD member states for the first time since the war. Under these circumstances, the U.S. Government adopted comparatively drastic anti-inflation measures, with the result that during the period of economic recession, there emerged the abnormal phenomenon very seldom seen in history--a drastic rise in interest rates as well as the combination and mutual actuation and vicious cycle of the policy of loose budget coupled with the policy of stringent currency. That is why the West European countries have repeatedly complained that they have to pay for the enormous budget deficits of the United States.

At the same time, this economic crisis led to grave unemployment, overproduction, and surplus of production capability in the United States and Europe, which was unprecedented since the war. In 1982, the number of unemployed persons in both the United States and the European Community countries reached about 12 million. Unemployment in the United States for a period reached a height not witnessed since 1941. If the number of semi-employed are added, the figure of the unemployed in the United States and Europe would be nearly doubled. In the United States, the utilization rate of facilities in the manufacturing industry at one point fell to their lowest level in the last 30-odd years, or around 67 percent, and the utilization of capacity of the iron and steel industry was only 40 percent. A similar situation existed in the West European countries regarding the surplus of production capacity, and it was even more serious in certain departments. The figure of bankruptcy of enterprises in the United States and in certain West European countries reached a record high since the war. At the beginning of this year, surplus grain stored in the United States amounted to around 134 million tons; butter, 280,000 tons; and milk products, \$3.5 billion. As for Western Europe, there were 336,000 tons of butter and 600,000 tons of nonfat dried milk in surplus, and there were lots of surplus grain and grape wine. The income of farmers in the United States in 1982 was the lowest since the 1930's.

The agricultural income of 1981 in France, Britain, and West Germany decreased by 20 percent as compared with 1974. Under these circumstances, both the United States and Europe hoped to sacrifice others so as to improve their own serious conditions of unemployment and overproduction. Their struggle for markets was the concrete expression of their attempts to shift the crisis onto others and their efforts to counter the shift.

From a long-term point of view, the economic crisis also actuated the struggle between the United States and Europe for strengthening future capability for survival as well as for better posture. This economic crisis increased the necessity and urgency of the Western countries to carry out large-scale economic readjustment so as to cope with the new situation and to strengthen future competitive positions against foreign competitors.

At present, the economic readjustment of Western countries includes the readjustment of their economic policies. After the later years of the 1970's, the Western countries discovered that the economic policy of Keynes was to no avail, and they began to look for a new economic policy that could cure the sickness of "stagflation" of the Western economy. Consequently, new ideas of economic policies, such as the theory of currency and the school of the supplysiders, came to the fore. After the Reagan administration assumed power, Reagan put forward a so-called "plan for revitalizing the economy" based on the economic conditions at that time, and developed the drastic prescription of high deficits and high interest rates in a bid to finally control inflation at the cost of aggravating the economic recession--this was the concrete manifestation of the efforts of the U.S. Government to readjust its economic policy and to search for a new economic policy. The main objective of this kind of "readjustment" and "search" was directed to future prospects, that is, it aimed at realizing its objective of "economic growth without inflation" at the later stage of the 1980's, so that the United States could "develop steadily" and could strengthen its economic position in the future. Therefore, the dispute over the high interest rates involved not only the efforts of both sides to cast off the existing predicament, but also the intention of attaining a better position in the future.

At present, the key feature of the economic readjustment of the Western countries is the readjustment of the economic structure. In the economic crisis, the crisis in structure, with the accelerating decline of the old industrial sectors as its main characteristic, markedly increased, and international competition became unprecedentedly keen. In order to enable oneself to gain a firm stand in the increasingly keen international competition--no matter whether the old industrial sectors are to suit the new world economic situation or the new industrial sectors are to enjoy a greater share in the future world market--it is necessary to conduct readjustment of the economic structure. Because of this, since the later stage of the 1970's, and especially beginning with its economic crisis, a great and overall wave of readjusting the economic structure has gradually engulfed the entire capitalist world. The Western countries have long conducted the transfer from labor-intensive enterprises to capital-intensive enterprises. The current readjustment mainly implements the transfer from capital-intensive enterprises

to technology-intensive enterprises. This readjustment includes both the transformation of the old industrial departments such as iron and steel, textiles, ship-building, and chemical industry (on the one hand, the existing production capacity should be reduced, and on the other, production should be diverted from producing traditional products to producing new products which have high appreciation rate and high capability of competition, such as special steel, special chemicals, polyester fiber, and so on), and the vigorous development of new industrial departments such as microelectronics, aeronautics, synthetic materials, biotechnology, and so on. In the course of this, the old industrial departments, in a bid to create conditions of orderly transformation or for the purpose of maintaining the existing situation and postponing the process of transformation, all have strongly asked the government to protect them from competition from abroad; and the new industrial departments are also afraid of competition; for example, the sophisticated technological industry in the United States is already concerned about the prospect that "it will become the U.S. automobile industry of the 1990's." ("Foreign Policy," quarterly of the United States, Spring issue 1983, p 12) They too are seeking the protection of the U.S. Government. In addition, in order to enhance their ability to compete and survive, the old industrial departments need subsidies provided by the government. The transformation of the old industrial departments and the development of the new industrial departments all need large-scale investment as well as assistance from the government. Through formulation of various protective measures and various forms of subsidies and assistance, the state further integrates itself with the monopolist capital, and jointly conducts a life-and-death struggle which in essence will determine the future destiny of the capitalist countries. Therefore, it is not difficult to understand why protectionism is so rampant between the United States and Europe and in the entire capitalist world, and the struggle of subsidies, antisubsidies, and anti-antisubsidies is so sharp.

Whether in the struggle of staving off the crisis and of improving the existing condition, or in the struggle of conducting economic readjustment so as to strive for a better economic position in future, Western Europe is in a less favorable situation than the United States. Western Europe was comparatively hard hit by the crisis, and its momentum of economic recovery is weak and small. Furthermore, since the end of the war, Western Europe has implemented state intervention to a considerable extent, the proportion of state-run enterprises with low efficiency and great deficits has been rather great, the system of "welfare state" has been deep-rooted and hard to change, and the economic and technological structure has been comparatively backward--all these have added difficulties to the economic readjustment in Western Europe. Therefore, with regard to the balance of economic strength between the United States and Western Europe, certain changes which are favorable to the United States but unfavorable to Western Europe will take place and, in fact, have taken place. For example, compared with 1975, the industrial production of the United States in 1982 increased by 18 percent, while that of Western Europe by only 13 percent. (OECD: "Principal Economic Targets," July 1983) In the last few years, in the economic contradiction and struggle between the United States and Western Europe, the United States

often has taken the offensive with Western Europe often on the defensive. This has something to do with the above-mentioned situation. However, these changes have taken place after the general process of the decline of the United States and the rise of the West European forces during the long period after the war. Therefore, the current economic strength of Western Europe is quite different from that of the 1950's. As a result, the attempt of the United States to strengthen its control over Western Europe economically cannot but meet with the vehement opposition of Western Europe. This discrepancy between the long-term trend and the short-term situation concerning the balance of economic strength has increased the acuteness and complexity of the economic contradiction between the United States and Western Europe.

Judging from the current situation, although the economic crisis of the West is over and the economy of the United States, Britain, and others is on the rise, generally speaking, the economic upturn of the Western countries will be a slow and unsteady process, and will also be very unbalanced. The crisis in the nature of structure and the economic readjustment are an even more prolonged process and are not likely to end in the 1980's. For a long period to come, the Western economy will experience a situation of slow growth alternated with crisis. The United States and other Western countries will have to tackle the problems of cyclical crisis as well as solve difficulties in the economic readjustment. All this determines that their economic contradiction will continue to develop.

3. The Influence of the Intensification of the U.S.-European Economic Contradiction on Political and Strategic Relations

In recent years, the continual intensification of the U.S.-European economic contradiction has deepened their differences on question of politics and strategy, and has widened the cleft in relations within the alliances.

The continual intensification of the U.S.-European economic contradiction has revived the West's dispute about the sharing of defense responsibilities.

The dispute over unequal responsibilities in military expenses caused by the U.S.-European economic contradiction has taken place time and again. At the end of the 1960's and at the beginning of the 1970's, when the United States was deeply engulfed in the mire of the war of aggression against Vietnam, Western Europe took the opportunity to view with the United States for markets, resulting in a sharp contradiction between the United States and Western Europe. Against this background, after the United States extricated itself from Vietnam, it put forward a plan in 1973, the so-called "the year of Europe," for handling relations with Western Europe. The plan complained that Western Europe was not only "ungrateful" for the military protection provided by the United States, but utilized the heavy military burden shouldered by the United States to "put the blame on others" and reaped profits through competition with the United States. The criticism made by the United States was refuted by Western Europe, thereby resulting in an open row. At that time, the real military expenditure of the United States began to decrease, while Western Europe still maintained an annual

increase of 2 percent. In 1978, the European allies of the NATO promised to increase the annual real military expenditure by 3 percent. Then, the United States and Western Europe were able to remain "at peace" in this respect. In the past few years, with the intensification of the U.S.-European economic contradiction, they have been "at war" again over this problem. The United States holds that from the viewpoint of the existing economic strength of Western Europe, it not only can take up a greater share of the defense of Western Europe, but also can shoulder military responsibilities outside the region of the NATO. The United States blames Western Europe for its unwillingness to increase defense expenditure and labels it as "private economic interests." Since the beginning of the 1980's, the real military expenditure of the United States has been increased by 5 percent annually, while Western Europe has been far from approaching its promised target of an annual increase of 3 percent. Therefore, the United States has more plausible grounds for criticizing Western Europe. A number of people inside and outside the U.S. Government have even threatened to withdraw U.S. troops from Europe and "go it alone." While charges and countercharges resounded over the two sides of the Atlantic Ocean concerning the problem of the gas pipeline and the iron and steel transactions, once again from the capital came the call for withdrawing troops from Europe. In September 1982, the U.S. Senate Defense Appropriations Committee passed a motion to reduce the U.S. troops stationed in Europe, a move that had not been seen in the previous 10 years and more. Despite the fact that the proposal does not enjoy wide support in the U.S. Government, it cannot but further weaken the mutual trust between the United States and Europe.

Furthermore, the intensification of the economic contradiction between the United States and Europe also has widened their differences on matters of strategic interests and of the relationship between strategic interests and economic interests.

In today's world, there are many poles in terms of economic affairs, and Western Europe is one of the important poles participating in economic contention. With regard to the aspect of military strategy, there are basically two poles, and only the United States and the USSR have the actual qualifications to contend. The different strategic positions between the United States and Europe have already determined their different strategic interests and their different attitudes toward the mutual relationship between strategic interests and economic interests, and, moreover, the current U.S.-European economic contradiction has added fuel to the flames of these differences.

It can be seen from the problems in the economic relations between the United States and Europe in the last few years that the United States is attempting to use its temporary advantageous position to regain its economic hegemony in the West, and is integrating this hegemony with its efforts to vie with the USSR for power. It equates the strategic interests in vying with the USSR for power to the common strategic interests of the West, and places it in an overwhelming position in the relationship of the alliance. Then, the United States demands that the economic interests of the West, which in essence stands for the economic interests of Western Europe, should be

subordinate to the strategic interests in vying with the USSR for power under the name of conforming to the common strategic interests of the West. This situation was fully reflected in a concentrated manner in the dispute between the United States and Europe over the supply of gas pipeline equipment to the USSR. In this connection, the United States always made arbitrary decisions and took preemptory actions, explicitly showing a manner of hegemonism. In August last year, when speaking of the dispute over the gas pipeline, U.S. Vice President Bush said fiercely: "We have heard many protests from our allies. I feel very sorry. The United States is the leader of the Free World, and in this government's term of office, we will again take actions like a leader." ("THE TIMES" of London, August 23, 1982) In this way, it acted as an overlord of the West. At the same time, the United States wanted to bring the embargo on the transaction of natural gas pipeline equipment into the course of its strategic policy of containment against the USSR; while it continued to sell wheat to the USSR, it wanted to sabotage the pipeline contract of Western Europe, asking Western Europe to make economic sacrifices for its strategic intentions. All this could not but deepen their confrontation over their respective strategic interests and aggravate their disputes as to the understanding and handling of strategic interests and economic interests between themselves. In short, it was a dispute concerning whose economic interests were to be sacrificed for whose strategic interests.

Now let us look at the stand of Western Europe regarding strategic interests, economic interests, and the relationship between them. On the one hand, Western Europe acknowledged that it shared common strategic interests with the United States in coping with the military threats of the USSR and, on the other hand, it asked the United States to acknowledge that Western Europe and the United States each had its own strategic interests and this difference should be treated as such. On the one hand, it acknowledged that providing the USSR with capital and technology would help the USSR bolster its military strength which in turn would force the West to strengthen military preparations correspondingly, thereby causing losses; on the other hand, Western Europe held that if economic relations with the USSR and Eastern Europe were severed, the loss to the West would be even greater. Furthermore, this loss had to be borne for the most part by Western Europe (Western Europe accounted for about 3/4 of the total exports of the West to the USSR and Eastern Europe, and about 90 percent of the total imports from the USSR and Eastern Europe). Starting from this point, Western Europe resolutely resisted the proposition of the United States that economic interests should be subordinate to strategic interests.

The differences between the United States and Western Europe, which have been intensified with the development of the economic contradiction, on strategic interests and on the relationship between strategic interests and economic interests, have been fully reflected in their vigorous arguments concerning the relationship among the allied countries. With regard to some important political and strategic issues, the United States has persistently emphasized its strategic interests, while Western Europe has stressed the aspect of economic interests; and both sides have adopted a very clear stand and will not give in.

For example, with regard to the function of the U.S.-European alliance, the United States attaches greater importance to its military strategic significance, and Western Europe, while acknowledging its military strategic significance, lays emphasis on its economic function. In April last year, Belgian Prime Minister Martens said that with respect to the U.S.-European alliance, emphasis should not only be laid on aspects of defense and East-West relations, but should also be laid on joint efforts to deal with the economic crisis--the economic crisis should be more urgent than either defense or East-West relations.

Take the following as another example. With regard to the implication of the safety of Western Europe, the United States insists that the military expansion of the USSR is the main threat to the safety of Western Europe; and Western Europe, while acknowledging the military threat of the USSR, lays stress on the danger of "political, social and economic instability" within Europe to the safety of Western Europe. They hold that the solution of the economic problems of Western Europe and the strengthening of the internal safety of the West European societies are "the key to the (West European) safety in the 1980's and the 1990's." ("WORLD TODAY," October 1982, No 379)

Again, concerning the problem of how to deal with the threat of the USSR, the Reagan administration shows a policy orientation different from the Nixon administration, or even from the Carter administration. The Reagan administration holds that the strengthening of military preparations by the West and the implementation of the economic containment toward the USSR will wear down the USSR, or at least make its expansionism become somewhat moderate. On the contrary, Western Europe holds that the adoption of such rigorous measures as strengthening military preparations and economic containment not only cannot wear down the USSR or force it to retreat, but possibly will make the USSR strengthen its internal control and adopt a stronger policy toward the West, thereby exacerbating the tension between East and West. Furthermore, they maintain that these measures not only cannot weaken the military and economic strength of the USSR, but possibly will harm the political and economic interests of the West, the West European countries in particular. Therefore, Western Europe has persistently held, and presently more strongly emphasizes, that economic relations with the USSR and Eastern Europe should be maintained and further expanded so as to maintain the stability of Europe and to promote changes in Eastern Europe.

Here is yet another example. With regard to evaluating the situation in the Third World region, the United States holds that the turmoil of this region is mainly due to the intervention of the USSR, and asserts that the West should resist the USSR on a global scale, even at the cost of military involvement; Western Europe, while acknowledging that there is the factor of Soviet intervention in the Third World's troubled areas, attaches more importance to local social, economic, and political causes; they oppose expanding the confrontation with the USSR to areas outside Europe; and in view of the current bad economic situation in the Third World countries and their own need to develop economic relations with the Third World, they maintain that the most effective way of ensuring stability in this region is for the West, the

United States in particular, to increase the aid to the Third World, so as to promote the economic growth and the strengthening of social justice of the Third World countries. ("THE ECONOMIST," Britain, 27 February 1982; "INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE," United States, 30 January 1982) There are other similar instances.

In history since the war, there have been many disputes between the United States and Western Europe. But the dispute this time can be described as the most severe in terms of the impact and influence on the relationship within the alliance. Judging from the objective situation, from now on the economic contradiction and the political and strategic contradiction will continue to be mutually promotive and develop alternately, aggravating the sense of distrust between the two sides. For a rather long period to come, even though their relationship is not likely to break off, this relationship will be a "troubled fellowship" which is full of conflict and disputes but which has to be coordinated. Not matter, the "trouble" between the two sides will tend to increase, and storms over the Atlantic will possibly become more frequent.

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NEAR EAST/SOUTH ASIA

GUOJI WENTI YANJIU VIEWS MIDEAST SITUATION

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[Article by Guo Jingan [6753 7231 1344]: "Middle East Situation Since the Lebanese-Israeli Agreement"]

[Text] Since Lebanon and Israel reached an agreement on troop withdrawal, some new changes have taken place in the Middle East situation. The signing of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement did not bring the crisis in Lebanon to an end; conversely, it has evoked new contradictions and struggles. The two super-powers have furthered their struggle to a new phase with Lebanon as the central arena and the Lebanese-Israeli agreement as a focus. The contradictions between Arab nations and inside the Palestinian front have also intensified to a new degree. New and more complicated factors have appeared in the development of the Middle East situation.

I

After 35 rounds of intense bargaining over a period of more than 4 months, the tripartite negotiations among Lebanon, Israel, and the United States finally reached an agreement on the withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon on 17 May this year. The main points of this agreement are as follows: 1) All Israeli troops should withdraw from Lebanon within 8 to 12 weeks from the signing of the agreement; Lebanon and Israel would then give up hostilities; at the same time, Syrian troops and PLO troops should also withdraw from Lebanon; 2) Lebanon agrees to allow Israel to set up a liaison office in the suburbs of Beirut, which can enjoy diplomatic privileges; Lebanon and Israel will begin talks on mutual relations in 6 months from the signing of the agreement; 3) A security zone, 40 to 45 km wide, will be established along Lebanon's southern boundary. Public order in this area will mainly be maintained by the Lebanese Government's army, with which Haddad's militia-men will be merged. Haddad will be appointed deputy commander of this force. Moreover, 50 Israeli soldiers will participate in patrols and they will be carried by Lebanese military vehicles; 4) UN troops will be responsible for maintaining public order in refugee camps in the Sidon area. Multinational troops will be responsible for maintaining public order in areas to the north of the security zone; 5) A Lebanese-Israeli-U.S. joint committee will be set up to supervise the troop withdrawals.

This agreement was a product of compromise between Lebanon and Israel reached through the United States' direct participation and application of coercion and inducements. It was also an inevitable outcome of the present balance of strength. It was controversial from the very beginning, and gave rise to some negative and complicated effects.

The agreement enabled Israel to gain its expansionist purpose of its invasion of Lebanon. In June last year, Israel carried out a large-scale invasion of Lebanon under the condition that the situation on its southern front had been stabilized with the conclusion of the Egyptian-Israeli agreement. The invasion was a component of Israel's expansionist plan of building a "great Israel." The direct purpose of this invasion included the following points: 1) Driving the PLO and Syrian forces out of Lebanon; 2) Establishing a "security zone" in the Lebanese border areas adjacent to Israel; 3) Maintaining the presence of the Israeli force in Lebanon through some "security arrangements" so as to reach the objective of controlling Lebanon; and 4) Achieving a certain degree of political recognition from Lebanon so as to split up the Arab world. All this was also the objective that Israel strived to achieve during the troops withdrawal negotiations. Therefore, after the signing of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, Shamir, the then Israeli foreign minister, undisguisedly declared that Israel had "basically achieved its objectives" of forcing Syria and the PLO to withdraw their troops simultaneously, effecting security measures in Lebanese-Israeli border areas, and "establishing new-type relations" between Israel and Lebanon. In particular, the termination of "hostilities" had led to the de facto normalization of Israeli-Lebanese relations and the political and diplomatic recognition by Lebanon to some extent. This should be the most welcome "victory" Israel could wish for, but Shamir did not want to point it out clearly. In fact, the Begin government regarded this agreement as "another breach" it had made in the Arab world after concluding an agreement with Egypt. Moreover, the signing of the agreement with Lebanon also enabled Israel to free itself from the passive position at home and abroad caused by its aggression against Lebanon and eased the somewhat strained relations between Israel and the United States since the occurrence of the Lebanon crisis so that Israel could immediately achieve large quantities of economic and arms aid from the United States. Although Israel could not but give up some of its demands which were extremely unreasonable, it still received double compensation from the United States. Therefore, the Begin government's arrogance continued unabated after the signing of the agreement and it did not show any sincerity for carrying out the agreement.

In the agreement, Lebanon was forced to make heavy concessions and even sacrifices. Some stipulations in the agreement, such as the establishment of a "security zone" on Lebanese territory; the restrictions on the number and equipment of Lebanese troops in the "security zone;" the appointment of Haddad, an Israeli puppet, to an official post; the establishment of an Israeli liaison office which is allowed to enjoy diplomatic privileges; and the commitment to negotiate Lebanese-Israeli relations, reflect Israel's attempt to control Lebanon and dissociate Lebanon from the Arab world. This taints the agreement with the color of a peace treaty, and the above-mentioned

stipulations have injured Lebanon's sovereignty and Lebanon's relations with the Arab world. However, the agreement also represents the result of Lebanon's efforts under Israel's military occupation. The Lebanese people have deeply suffered from wars and have led a miserable life for a long time, and their country has been divided. They eagerly desire to recover sovereignty and territorial integrity, to rebuild their country, and to restart a happy life. To a certain degree, the agreement reflects the efforts made by the Lebanese Government and people to seek a way out and to recover sovereignty and territorial integrity. Therefore, Lebanon has won sympathy and understanding from many Arab countries. For this reason, the Lebanese Government considers the agreement as "an honorable solution at a very low cost." Some Lebanese officials even expected that the conclusion of this agreement would mark "the beginning of a new era" in Lebanon.

The agreement has placed Syria and the PLO in a more passive and difficult position. The Israeli invasion of Lebanon caused heavy military losses to Syria and the PLO. Now, Syria remains in the course of recovering its strength. The PLO armed forces, after suffering heavy losses, were forced to withdraw to eight Arab countries which are all far away from Israel, but a part of the PLO troops continued to stay in Lebanon. Lebanon thus became the PLO's last major position where it could directly fight Israel. After the United States and Israel imposed the agreement upon Syria and the PLO, Syria and the PLO were forced into a dilemma: They had to decide whether or not to withdraw their troops from Lebanon. If they did so, they would swallow the bitter fruit; if they refused to do so, they would become the main obstacle to the settlement of the Lebanon crisis. The former meant that they would lose an important position for resisting and fighting Israel and lose a favorable position for the settlement of the Middle East issue; the latter meant that they would set themselves against the wishes of the Lebanese people. At the same time, if Syria and the PLO refused to withdraw their troops, Israel could take this as its pretext for continuing its military occupation of Lebanon and as a means for exerting constant pressure on Syria and the PLO. This move taken by the United States and Israel was really a treacherous and insidious one!

The agreement thus became a new controversial issue in the Arab world. After the agreement was signed, it caused different reactions in the Arab world. A small number of countries condemned the agreement severely; several countries expressed their support for the agreement; and most Arab countries took a cautious attitude and just indicated that they respected the decision made by the Lebanese Government and people. No matter what views they openly expressed, differences in fact exist among Arab countries. If these differences cannot be handled properly, they will produce an unfavorable influence on the unity of the Arab world.

The agreement enabled the United States to score another point in its rivalry with the Soviet Union in the Middle East. On 1 September last year, President Reagan put forward his new "Middle East peace scheme," which later led to the negotiations between Lebanon and Israel. The negotiations broke down in May this year, and Reagan's Middle East plan was mired in a predicament.

Reagan could not afford such a frustration when the election year was drawing nearer, so he sent Secretary of State Shultz to carry out painstaking shuttle diplomacy in the Middle East. Shultz did his best to persuade the parties concerned to accept the U.S. plan by combining threats with inducements, and the troop withdrawal agreement was at last concluded. The signing of the agreement thus temporarily rescued Reagan's Middle East plan and enabled the United States to continue to hold a dominant position in the course of settling the Middle East issue, thus providing a favorable condition for furthering the "Camp David peace process." For this reason, the Reagan administration, being complacent, bragged that the agreement was "a remarkable achievement" and marked "a positive progress" and that it helped cross the "important threshold" of Middle East peace. On the other hand, the Soviet Union was powerless to influence the situation when Israel invaded Lebanon and thus once again lost its credibility with the Arab and Palestinian peoples. After the crisis abated, the Soviet Union attempted to recover its influence in the Middle East and tried to meddle in the Middle East issue. It tried through various channels to exert influence to hinder the conclusion of the troop withdrawal agreement. Therefore, the signing of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement was undoubtedly a setback for the Soviet Union's effort to recover its influence in the Middle East, and was thus firmly opposed and severely attacked by the Soviet Union, which emphatically accused the United States of "enslaving Arab countries one after another through reaching separate agreements with them" and indicated that it was resolved to obstruct the implementation of the agreement.

II

The Lebanese-Israeli agreement affects the strategic interests of the two superpowers in the Middle East, concerns the fundamental issue of the Arab and Palestinian people's struggle against Israel's expansionism, and also touches on the contradictions and differences among Arab countries and peoples. Therefore, the recent developments in the Middle East situation are mainly reflected in the complex struggles around the agreement.

1. Syria and the PLO resolutely oppose and reject the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, and the Soviet Union has taken this opportunity to step up its intervention in Middle East affairs in order to obstruct the implementation of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement. Syria and the PLO condemned the agreement for doing harm to Lebanon's independence and sovereignty and to the security of Syria and other Arab countries. They regard it as a "new Camp David agreement" and "a huge fortune" made by Israel through its invasion of Lebanon. They point out that the agreement has affirmed the results of Israel's expansionist act of invading Lebanon. Syria clearly indicated that it "would never accept the plan to turn Lebanon into Israel's protectorate which is situated in the flank of Syria" and demanded that Israel unconditionally carry out Resolutions No. 508 and 509 of the UN Security Council and withdraw its troops from Lebanon. For this reason, Syria, on the one hand, has beefed up its military strength so as to effect a "strategic balance" against Israel and to guard against a sudden attack by Israel: on the other hand, it has continued to seek and maintain dialogues with the United States. International

public opinion holds that Syria is trying to maintain a "national equilibrium" against Israel in Lebanon and to seek the United States' commitment to ensure that Israel will return the Golan Heights to Syria, and Syria will not rashly withdraw its troops from Lebanon before these basic requirements are met. As a matter of fact, the United States has continuously offered inducements to Syria and, at the same time, kept exerting pressure on Syria in a vain attempt to force Syria to submit or to soften its position.

Based on a position of contending with the United States, the Soviet Union naturally does not like to see the smooth implementation of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement. On the one hand, it loudly condemned the agreement and the Reagan plan and repeatedly reiterated the necessity of convening an international meeting, in which the Soviet Union can take part, to settle the Middle East issue; on the other hand, it has carried out military and diplomatic containment and exerted influence to obstruct the implementation of the agreement. It is deeply aware of the important position of Syria, so it has paid special attention to strengthening its influence in Syria. It is continuously delivering new military equipment to Syria to make up for its losses and has provided Syria with advanced SAM missiles. At the same time, it has invited many important Syrian delegations to visit the Soviet Union and has sent its delegations to visit Syria so as to harden the Syrian position. The Soviet Union, in particular, "highly values" Syria's "staunch and persistent spirit in the struggle against the United States and Israel's attempt to force the Arab people to accept separate capitulationist deals with them." The Soviet Union also exerts influence on the PLO and is trying to bring this organization under its control. Now, the Lebanese-Israeli agreement is virtually mired in a difficult position.

2. By combining threats with inducements and playing tricks of dividing and demoralizing the Arab ranks, the United States and Israel have spared no effort to rescue the Lebanese-Israeli agreement and to ensure a political solution to the Middle East issue on the basis of the Reagan plan. The objectives of the present policies of the United States and Israel include the following points: 1) Soothing Lebanon and "preventing the Lebanese Government from losing confidence" and from yielding to "Syria's pressure;" 2) Alluring and coercing Syria into withdrawing troops from Lebanon or promising a force withdrawal; and 3) Making great efforts to exert influence on moderate Arab countries and asking them to help realize the above two purposes. For this sake, the United States has invited Amin al-Jumayyil, Lebanese president; Arens, Israeli defense minister; and Shamir, Israeli foreign minister, to visit Washington on separate occasions, and appointed McFarlane, former deputy national security adviser, as new Mideast Envoy responsible for carrying out shuttle diplomacy in the Middle East in place of Habib, who was regarded by Syria as "biased toward Israel." Arens, Israeli defense minister, once said: If Lebanon "explicitly states that it regards Syria's military presence in Lebanon as illegal and as an act of trampling on Lebanon's sovereignty," and if this position wins "support from many countries, including those in the Arab world," Syria will then "have to consider a force withdrawal." This remark indicates part of the policy intentions of the United States and Israel. To this end, the United States has repeatedly reiterated

its faithfulness to the commitment of the agreement and has increased its economic and military aid to Lebanon and stepped up its efforts to help train and build up the Lebanese Government's army. At the same time, the United States also has insisted on maintaining dialogues and contacts with Syria. At present, the United States and Israel are playing a new trick of working out a timetable for Israel's troop withdrawals and arranging steps for the disengagement of the Israeli and Syrian forces. This is also designed to ensure the implementation of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement. The "redeployment" of the Israeli Army is not only an inducement but also a means for exerting pressure on Syria and Lebanon.

3. Relations between some Arab countries and their relations with the PLO have become strained, and the rifts between them tend to become wider. After the conclusion of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, in addition to Syria and the PLO, Libya and Iran also have expressed their strong opposition and show resentment against Lebanon. Syria has condemned Lebanon for "departing from" the Arab League's charter and the resolution adopted by the Arab Summit and has criticized the Lebanese Government for "deviating from the basic principles for establishing the state, betraying the Arab position, and deeply injuring Lebanese-Syrian relations." 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO, also has criticized "some Arab countries" for supporting the Lebanese-Israeli agreement and has accused the Lebanese Government of "imposing" its political terms and terms put forth by the United States and Israel on other people. Syria has also openly supported the domestic opposition in Lebanon and encouraged them to form a resistance front to fight against the Lebanese-Israeli agreement and to exert pressure on the Lebanese Government. Lebanese President al-Jumayyil has called the resistance front "the opposition delivered by helicopter" and condemned their acts. In these circumstances, relations between Syria and Lebanon have worsened. In addition, because Syria and Libya support the opposition faction inside "Fatah" and thus intensify armed conflicts between antagonistic PLO factions, and Syria even have driven out 'Arafat, the PLO's relations with Syria and Libya also have become considerably strained. Now, the Arab people are very worried at seeing a situation which saddens friends and gladdens the enemy. They hope that the Arab world will restore its unity and direct their guns at their common enemy. Some Arab countries are making painstaking efforts to mediate between conflicting quarters for this purpose.

4. The PLO is mired in a difficult and dangerous position with the intensification of its internal contradictions. The PLO consists of eight Palestinian organizations which hold different political ideas and have different backgrounds. They were united under the common premise of opposing Zionism and striving for Palestinian national rights, so the PLO is of the character of a united front. Differences have long-existed among various groups inside the PLO. After the PLO was forced to evacuate Beirut last year, it was situated in a more difficult position, and the issue of its way out became more prominent. This led to the intensification of its internal contradictions. After Lebanon and Israel signed their agreement, the internal feud in "Fatah" came to the surface and turned into open armed conflicts due to the intervention of outside forces. The differences are focused on what

attitude should be adopted toward armed struggles, political and diplomatic struggles, the Fes plan, the Reagan plan, and the proposed Jordan-Palestine Confederation. In addition, disputes over internal reforms also exist. Differences and sectarian struggles inside the PLO have sharpened in the new difficult conditions, and a deterioration in the state of affairs is also effected by the intervention of outside forces which attempt to bring the PLO under their control. At present, some Arab countries are making efforts to restore the unity of the PLO and trying to prevent this fratricidal struggle from developing further.

5. The domestic turmoil in Lebanon is escalating. Long-standing feuds and conflicts exist between the two major religious communities--the Muslims and the Christians--and between their respective armed forces--the Druze militia and the Phalange militia. Recently, the strife has become harsher. In late July this year, when Israel declared its troop "redeployment" plan and the Lebanese Government decided to send the government's army to take over control of the mountainous areas from where the Israeli army was to withdraw, the government decision was at once opposed by the Druze militia, who demanded that a political solution be first reached on the control of the mountainous areas. This thus led to the escalation of armed conflicts between the two factions. The Druze militia shelled Beirut International Airport and detained three government ministers. Armed conflicts also reoccurred in the Aley and Sofar areas. In order to overcome the crisis, the Lebanese president met with leaders of major political factions and held a consultation conference. A cabinet committee was set up to discuss and formulate a reconciliation program. At the same time, the Lebanese domestic crisis also has become a subject in the frequent diplomatic activities carried out by various quarters concerned. Saudi Arabia, Jordan, and Egypt have separately sent their special envoys to Lebanon to help promote the realization of domestic reconciliation there. A task for McFarlane, the special envoy of the U.S. President, is to prompt the two conflicting factions in Lebanon to effect a truce before Israel "redeploys" its troops and to reach an agreement on the Lebanese Government army's takeover of the areas recovered from the Israeli Army. The pressing matter of the moment for the United States is to stabilize the domestic situation in Lebanon; otherwise, there is no way to carry out the Lebanese-Israeli agreement. However, it is never easy to effect a fundamental reconciliation between the two religious factions and their armed forces, because their antagonism is deep-rooted and is related to the redistribution of state power.

In general, it will be very difficult to smoothly carry out the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, and the arduous political and diplomatic struggles focused on the dispute over the agreement will last for a long time and will be accompanied with limited armed conflicts.

At present, the situation in Lebanon, in essence, highlights the contradictions and struggles in the Middle East. The struggle between all parties concerned over the Lebanese-Israeli agreement will produce an important influence on the development of the Middle East situation and will determine the developmental tendency.

It can be expected that the two superpowers--the United States and the Soviet Union--will further intensify their contention. In June last year, Israel invaded Lebanon and attacked the PLO and Syrian forces. This action was in the strategic interests of the United States and was connived at by the United States. In the eyes of the United States, the Lebanon crisis not only brought about another "risk" for the United States, but also created an "opportunity" for the United States. The crisis was a favorable opportunity for the United States to achieve its objectives: forcing Syria to withdraw from Lebanon; wiping out or deeply weakening the military strength of the PLO so as to turn it into a purely "political organization"; establishing a pro-American Lebanese central government consisting mainly of Christians; and promoting the whole process of the peace negotiations on the settlement of the Arab-Israeli dispute through the settlement of the Lebanon issue. However, the United States also was worried that if the crisis could not be settled in good time, some unfavorable changes would occur, and this would deepen the resentment of Arab countries, especially those moderate ones, thus adversely affecting the United States' plan for effecting a "strategic uniformity" against the Soviet Union in the Middle East. On the other hand, if the PLO was excessively pressed, it might be driven to an extreme. The unfavorable changes would also provide an opportunity for the Soviet Union to meddle in Middle East affairs. The "Middle East Peace Plan" put forward by President Reagan on 1 September last year reflected the above-mentioned considerations and intentions. Although the Reagan plan provided a bargaining margin for the status of the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, and Jerusalem, it did not change the constant U.S. position of being biased toward Israel and disregarding the national rights of the Palestinian people. This determined that the plan would certainly be resisted and boycotted by the Arab people. In May this year, the Jordanian-Palestinian talks, on which the United States had placed hope, also fell flat for this reason, and the Reagan plan was then faced with the danger of becoming abortive. So the United States rashly dispatched Habib and Shultz to the Middle East to carry out intensive shuttle diplomacy, and they finally succeeded in making Israel and Lebanon sign the troop withdrawal agreement after making great efforts. The basic U.S. principle toward the Middle East is to split up and demoralize the Arab world so as to deal with the Arab countries one after another separately, then it can accomplish its "peace process" from Cairo, to Beirut, and then to Amman and Damascus. So it will never allow the Lebanese-Israeli agreement and the Reagan plan to fall through. It is expected that the United States will continue to carry on this principle in its future actions and will promote the Lebanese-Israeli agreement at all costs.

Because of the Soviet Union's powerless performance during the Lebanese war, its prestige in the Middle East has declined to an all-time low. Since Andropov took power, the Soviet Union has made efforts in all aspects to turn the tide to its favor and to recover its influence in the Middle East: 1) It is rearming Syria and consolidating its position in the Middle East and building up its military presence in this region with Syria as a center. After the Lebanese war, the Soviet Union and Syria replenished the contents of their friendship and cooperation treaty and explicitly stated the establishment of "strategic cooperation" relations. The Soviet Union committed

itself to guaranteeing the security of the Syrian Army at home and abroad, to supply additional weapons to make up for those lost in the Lebanese war, and to build advanced missile and radar bases on Syrian territory. The Soviet Government also issued statements warning that the Soviet Union would not look on unconcerned if Israel invaded Syria. At the same time, the Soviet Union also invited Libya's (?Az-Zarruq) to visit Moscow, and the two countries concluded a principled agreement on a friendship treaty. The Soviet Union also promised to provide more military aid to Libya to help Libya resist the United States' effort to isolate and weaken it. The Soviet defense minister also visited South Yemen and discussed plans to strengthen military cooperation. The Soviet Union also restored arms supplies to Iraq, which were once suspended. 2) The Soviet Union is encouraging Syria and the PLO to reject and sabotage the Reagan plan and to oppose the Lebanese-Israeli troops withdrawal agreement. In order to harden the stand of Syria and the PLO, the Soviet Union invited 'Arafat to visit Moscow and sent a special envoy to talk with 'Arafat. The Soviet Union also dispatched a number of delegations to visit Lebanon and to contact people of all quarters concerned in an attempt to contain the Lebanese-Israeli talks. 3) The Soviet Union also is trying hard to exert influence on moderate Arab countries and taking the initiative in improving relations with these countries.

Obviously, the signing of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement signifies that the United States has gotten the upper hand in the rivalry, but the Soviet Union certainly will not resign itself to this state of affairs, and will inevitably try hard to obstruct the implementation of the agreement and wage a new struggle against the United States. The two superpowers not only contend against each other, but also retain some room for compromising with each other. Shultz recently admitted that the U.S. Government "is in multi-level contact" with Moscow to "avoid the worsening of the Beirut situation which is very bad already." It seems that both the United States and the Soviet Union do not want to involve themselves in a head-on conflict and do not want to see the situation in the Middle East out of control. It must be pointed out: The Middle East policies of both superpowers have their basic weak points and include contradictions which cannot be easily overcome. The United States is biased toward Israel and disregards the national rights of the Arab and Palestinian people, thus setting itself against the 100 million Arab people. The Soviet Union orients all its actions in the Middle East to its selfish interests in the rivalry against the United States, and what it has done in that region is very unpopular, and it is now in an isolated position. Therefore, both the United States and the Soviet Union's ability to influence the Middle East situation is limited. Now, the Lebanese-Israeli agreement is stranded and the Reagan plan is getting nowhere, but the United States cannot dish out any new ideas to make things move. The room for the Soviet Union to manoeuvre is also limited, and it is difficult for it to achieve marked results.

Moreover, it can be expected that when the two superpowers are stepping up their rivalry, contradictions among Mideast countries and peoples will develop further. The following are some prominent issues facing the Arab world:

1. The unity of the Arab world is faced with a new test. All Arab countries and peoples are loyal to their common cause and to their respective national duties, and they will never surrender. However, in recent years, endless wars and disorders in this region have deteriorated economic difficulties in Arab countries and have increased people's anti-war sentiment. Arab people are now longing for a political solution to the Middle East issue. The United States is now making use of this factor to pursue its plan of dealing with Arab countries separately and widening the rifts between different Arab countries. The intervention of the Soviet Union has also intensified the contradictions among Arab countries. As a matter of fact, the Middle East policies of the two superpowers are all based on creating discord in the Middle East. Therefore, disputes over almost all major issues in recent years, including the Lebanese war, the Reagan Mideast plan, the Fes plan, and the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, have occurred continually in the Arab world, and new differences always appear before old ones can be settled. This situation, in turn, provides a new "opportunity" for the two superpowers. The more worrisome thing is this vicious circle tends to continue unabated.

2. The PLO is bogged down in a more difficult and dangerous position. Israel's seige of Beirut caused heavy losses to the PLO and forced it to evacuate and scatter to some Arab countries. The Lebanese-Israeli agreement then added new difficulties to it and sharpened its internal political differences. A small number of people in this organization pressed 'Arafat to change political line. Due to the intervention of outside forces, the state of affairs is worsening, and the internal strife has developed into open armed conflicts and fratricidal events. Now, the strength of the PLO is weakening, and this organization has split up. Some Arab countries are trying to mediate between the conflicting PLO factions, but it is not easy to reconcile them because their differences are deeply rooted. However, more and more people have come to realize that weakening and splitting the PLO is not in the fundamental interests of the Arab and Palestinian people, and the splittist action is unpopular. But if differences are not handled properly, the organization will really be broken up.

3. Lebanon is faced with the danger of being partitioned. After the signing of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, a "national salvation front" consisting of seven Muslim leftist organizations was established. This front is headed by Junblatt, the Druze leader and also leader of the Social Progressive Party, and includes Franjiyah, former prime minister and leader of Maronite Christians; and Karami, former prime minister and leader of Sunni Muslims. There is a "state council" under the front, and the council has a number of administrative bodies dealing with military, political, and economic affairs. So the front is in fact of the character of state power. It is openly supported by Syria. At present, in order to reduce casualties of its troops, to lighten its economic burdens, and to placate the resentful sentiment at home, Israel is planning to "redeploy" its army, while continuing to exert pressure on Syria, Lebanon, and the PLO. This has triggered off escalating armed conflicts between the two major antagonistic religious forces in Lebanon. What is particularly worth noticing is that Israel's "redeployment"

plan involves some sinister designs. Although Israel has declared that its present "partial force withdrawal" is the "first step" of its complete force withdrawal plan, it can still take the "first step" as the last step. Israel's ambition to partition Lebanon is known to all. Therefore, Lebanon is indeed faced with the danger of being partitioned by foreign and domestic forces. For a certain period in the future, Lebanon will remain divided by domestic and outside forces and remain in a disorderly situation in which armed conflicts will occur from time to time.

In general, it is not likely that major wars will occur in the Middle East in the foreseeable future, but the turbulent situation, in which complicated political and diplomatic struggles are accompanied with limited armed conflicts, will last for a considerable time. Before a new change in the balance of strength among various parties concerned appears, a stalemate will exist in the Middle East.

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EASTERN EUROPE

POLISH SPOKESMAN ON SOLIDARITY-CALLED RALLIES

OW211643 Beijing XINHUA in English 0728 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Text] Warsaw, 20 Dec (XINHUA)--The underground organizations of the outlawed Solidarity union failed to get "support from the majority of the society" for their appeal to stage anti-state demonstrations in cities across the country last week, said Polish Government spokesman Jerzy Urban at a press conference here today.

He said only 500 people took part in the demonstration in Gdansk on December 16. In Warsaw the number of people involved in the "peace demonstration" was still smaller--about 300. And in Poznan there were no more than 150 demonstrators.

No direct clashes happened in those cities. Only in the southern cities of Czestochowa and Wroclaw, police used water cannons to disperse the few hundred demonstrators. Only two were arrested in the industrial area south of Warsaw, one of whom being the younger brother of the underground Solidarity leader Zbigniew Bujak.

The underground "provisional national coordination committee" of the former Solidarity union had issued an appeal calling on the workers to stage "peace demonstrations," "factory rallies" and "strikes" on December 16 to mark the 13th anniversary of the 1970 strikes and the second anniversary of the death of seven miners in Katowice.

Urban said the demonstration turnout was low because the nation has "reorientated its thinking." Poles no longer give their support to solidarity leaders, he said.

He said even Lech Walesa, former Solidarity leader, expressed doubts about the appeal. Walesa has criticized the underground leaders for not putting enough thought into their appeal to the people to demonstrate.

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EASTERN EUROPE

GDR'S HONECKER DISCUSSES DEPLOYMENT OF NUCLEAR MISSILES

OW230800 Beijing XINHUA in English 0710 GMT 23 Dec 83

[Text] Berlin, 22 Dec (XINHUA)--Chairman of the Council of State of the German Democratic Republic (GDR) Erich Honecker today urged both the East and West to take "constructive measures to limit and reduce armament on the basis of the principle of mutual and equal security."

According to an ADN (German news agency) report, Honecker said in an interview with a French magazine, REVOLUTION, that due to the deployment of U.S. nuclear missiles in Europe, the international situation has become further complicated, a new round of arms race has started and, therefore, the danger of a nuclear world war has increased.

He described the deployment of U.S. missiles as an attempt by the United States and NATO to achieve military superiority to the Warsaw Pact states. The Warsaw Pact countries were compelled to take countermeasures to restore the upset military balance, he said, referring to the installation of Soviet missiles in Germany and Czechoslovakia.

Honecker stressed that at present redoubled efforts are needed to "avert the danger of a nuclear world war." "We demand that the deployment of NATO missiles be immediately stopped and the systems already sited be dismantled. The arms race must come to an end."

Talking about the relations between the GDR and France, Honecker said the ties between the two countries have been developing "vigorously."

He pointed out that the development of ties of peaceful coexistence between the two sides today, in the complicated international situation, is an essential factor of stability in Europe.

CSO: 4000/153

BRIEFS

USSR DELEGATION IN POLAND--Warsaw, 22 Dec (XINHUA)--A delegation of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR headed by Chairman Vitaliy Ruben of the Soviet of nationalities of the Supreme Soviet ended its 8-day visit to Poland today. This was a delegation of the highest level with the biggest number of members from the Soviet Union to visit Poland and stay here for the longest time in the past three years. The Soviet delegation had meetings and talks with marshal of the Polish National Assembly (Sejm) Stanislaw Gucwa and members of the Sejm Presidium. They visited Warsaw and some other provinces. First secretary of the Polish United Workers' Party Wojciech Jaruzelski and president of the Council of State of Poland Henryk Jablonski met the delegation on separate occasions. It is reported that during these meetings and talks "the two sides stressed the importance of strengthening Polish-Soviet friendship and further extending the brotherly ties and cooperation in all fields." [Text] [OW230250 Beijing XINHUA in English 0223 GMT 23 Dec 83]

SFRY ON EUROMISSILE DEPLOYMENT--Belgrade, 23 Dec (XINHUA)--The National Defense Council of Yugoslavia holds that the current arms race and the deployment of medium-range missiles in Europe call for adequate measures to strengthen Yugoslavia's defense capability. According to the Yugoslav News Agency, TANJUG, the National Defense Council held a session here today to discuss the latest developments in Europe in the light of the intensification of the arms race. Chaired by President Mika Spiljak of the Presidency of Yugoslavia, the session also discussed questions of the defense-related traffic and local defense organizations as well as other problems concerning the working plan of the council. [Text] [OW241910 Beijing XINHUA in English 0703 GMT 24 Dec 83]

HUNGARIAN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY--Budapest, 24 Dec (XINHUA)--The winter session of the Hungarian National Assembly closed here yesterday afternoon after two days of discussion. The session examined and passed reports on the amendment of the constitution, on the election of delegates of the National Assembly and local assemblies and on the state budget for 1984. The session decided to set up a legal committee to supervise legislation work in line with the constitution. It also decided that the chairman of the Central Control Commission should be a member of the Council of Ministers. In addition, the session decided that the commune administrations should be abolished and the commune courts be reconstructed accordingly as from January 1984. Starting from the general election in 1985, a delegate of national or local assembly should be elected among two or more candidates, and ten percent of the National Assembly candidates should be recommended by the Hungarian Patriotic People's

front. Finance Minister Istvan Hetenyi told the meeting in his finance report that Hungary has maintained its international payments ability, with export increasing markedly. But the export ability has not increased adequately and the state investment has exceeded the planned level. The national income will increase by 1.5 to 2 percent next year. There is also a need to increase export so as to make the trade surplus reach 15 billion forints, the minister said. [Text] [OW250401 Beijing XINHUA in English 0401 GMT 25 Dec 83]

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NATIONAL AFFAIRS

ACCELERATION OF 'FOUR TRANSFORMATIONS' OF CADRES DISCUSSED

Beijing LIAOWANG [OBSERVATION POST] in Chinese No 10, 20 Oct 83 pp 8-11

[Article by Wang Zhaohua [3769 3564 5478), deputy director, Organization Department, CPC Central Committee: "Acceleration of Progress of 'Four Transformations' of Cadres"]

[Text] The implementation of [the program of] making the cadre ranks more revolutionary, younger in average age, better educated and professionally more competent, especially at the various leadership levels, and of the solution to the cooperation and replacement problem of new and old cadres is one of the most urgent tasks currently facing the party and the state. It is also an important strategic policy established by the 12th CCP Party Congress for socialist construction in the new period.

Since the 12th Party Congress, our party has done a great deal of work in the "four transformations" of the cadre ranks. In his report at the congress, Comrade Hu Yaobang clearly established the development of the "four transformations" of the cadres and the cooperation and replacement between new and old cadres to guarantee successors for the socialist cause as important tasks of the party during the new period. The new Party Constitution has added a chapter on "party cadres" and included the policy of the "four transformations" of the cadres in the basic plan of the party. After the 12th Party Congress, the party Central Committee has summarized and analyzed all the cadre ranks and the gap which exists towards the needs for modernization construction and has adopted a series of important measures to accelerate the "four transformations" of the cadres, with the process for the various leadership levels to be carried out first. For instance, it has concentrated its efforts on completing the first-stage work in the reform of various department committee organizations of the Central Committee and the state agencies. It has announced several ideas of principle for the staffing of provincial-level leadership groups. It has released documents related to the further improvement of the system of separation and retirement of old cadres, proper cooperation and replacement between new and old cadres and ways to continue to demonstrate the role of old cadres. It has strengthened the training work of cadres. It has actively explored the reform of the cadre system based on investigations and study. And it has carried out a vigorous propaganda on the importance of paying attention to knowledge and implementing the policies on intellectuals. The purpose of all this work is to lay a foundation, or to open a new road, for the acceleration of the "four transformations" of the cadres.

At present, the organizational reform and readjustment of the leadership groups in various provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions have been smoothly completed. This was a decisive step adopted to accelerate the "four transformations" of the cadre ranks after the reform of the first-level party political organizations of the Central Committee. It was also an important effort and an important breakthrough in reforming the personnel utilization system.

The Communist Party in power must continually reorganize its upper structure so that it is in line with the economic foundation. This is a principle of Marxism. At present, among the various reforms of the upper structure, the reform of the leadership organizations is decisive. The need for the "four transformations" of the cadres is becoming more and more urgent in economic construction. For this reason, the Central Committee decided to make the reform of the various levels of leadership organizations the top priority among the various reforms and has spent a great deal of energy to carry out this reform. Notable changes have taken place in the provincial leadership groups and organizations since their reorganization and reform. First, the leadership group personnel have decreased. The number of party committee members, standing committee members and provincial governors and deputy governors (mayors and chairmen) has decreased by 35 percent compared to before reorganization. Second, the average age has decreased by 6 to 7 years compared to before reorganization. The ratio of 50-year olds and younger has increased from the original 15 percent to the present 48 percent. Third, the cultural level has increased. People in leadership groups with cultural levels of higher and specialized institutions have increased from 20 percent before reorganization to the present 42 percent. Fourth, in the complement of new and old cadres, more than half of the new groups have old and well-trained cadres and are supplemented with a definite number of non-party cadres and female and national minority cadres.

The completion of the reform of the first-level provincial leadership organizations has pushed the leadership groups a big step forward in the direction of the "four transformations." It has widely improved the understanding of the necessity of the "four transformations." The field of vision of selected talents has further expanded. And there has also been a breakthrough in the method of selection. We can say that this is a very good beginning in the implementation of the "four transformations" of various levels of leadership groups. However, in terms of the characteristics and needs of the total task during the new period, the new groups after reorganization still have the problems of being too old in age, too low in cultural level and too few in specialization among their cadres. There is still a rather large gap in the requirement for cadres in the four modernizations construction and greater efforts are needed.

A very important problem here is the need to select outstanding young and middle-aged cadres. The selection of thousands of outstanding young and middle-aged cadres is the key to the implementation of the "four transformations" of the cadres ranks. If this key is not taken hold of, the "four transformations" of the cadres will come to nothing.

How do we interpret the implementation of the "four transformations" of the cadre ranks as announced by the Central Committee? Simply put, the task is to establish a fighting army more rational in its age structure and cultural level, rich in energy and capable of implementing with determination the party line, principles and policies during the new period and of creatively completing its task according to the needs of socialist modernization construction. To prepare cadres for the economic vitalization in the 1990's on the basis of the actual conditions in our country, the proper completion of this task can be divided into three steps. The first step is to make a greater breakthrough in the "four transformations" of the leadership groups through organizational reform and the reorganization of the leadership groups. On the foundation of this first step, the second step is to concentrate forces to complete the replacement between new and old cadres by the end of 1985 and to create the condition for normalized replacement between new and old in the cadre ranks. The third step is to improve further the age structure and knowledge level of the leadership groups and to complete the "four transformations" of the various levels of leadership groups by making the cadre ranks more revolutionary, younger in average age, better educated and professionally more competent and to establish a system of replacement by the end of 1990. This is to say that we should use an 8-year period, 3 years for the former task and 5 years for the latter, to construct the leadership ranks and various levels of leadership groups properly so that they will truly be able to better meet the needs of the total task during the new period.

The selection of a large group of outstanding young and middle-aged cadres is a task that history has bestowed on our party and on us older-generation communists. Comrade Chen Yun [7115 0061] once said: Making the cadre ranks more revolutionary, younger in average age, better educated and professionally more competent is a major principle in our cadre policy. We should deeply understand the importance of this problem; strengthen our sense of time, sense of urgency and sense of responsibility; adopt strong and effective measures and accelerate the pace of training and selection of young and middle-aged cadres. Our old cadres particularly should be the first to take on this glorious obligation. Of course, we cannot imagine that this work will be all smooth sailing. It is bound to encounter resistance and difficulties here and there, and the resistance and difficulties will come first from incorrect ideological understanding and from the forces of old concepts and habits. I will discuss four ideas on these problems below.

First, We Must Break Through Old Conventions and Broaden Our Field of Vision.

What exactly are old conventions and how is the field of vision broadened? Comrade Hu Yaobang once wrote in a paper in 1980: "To adopt a new viewpoint and new standards to select and promote cadres is a struggle. If the organizational departments in the entire party do not first establish a new viewpoint, things will not be done properly." Why is it called a struggle? It is because one's thinking is not straightened out, one does not have the habit, and one does not approve. There is even a conflict and there is an obstacle to the thing to be done. For instance, in the past, the selection of a cadre emphasized background, status, qualifications and record of service and seniority. It did not give much emphasis to knowledge and to intellectuals and did not pay

much attention to cultural level and academic background. Also, the problem of aging did not exist. This was created by the historical condition at that time. It does not work now. The situation and task have changed. If we continued to differentiate and select cadres according to these antiquated rules and ideas, we would be doing things according to old conventions. When we say old conventions, we are of course not referring to the excellent traditions of the party, we are not referring to the basic principles of Marxism and we are also not referring to the still effective regulations and systems, good experiences and good methods. We are referring to ideas, concepts, habits and methods which are no longer suitable to the needs of the new period and those which are erroneous and antiquated and hamper the implementation of the party's tasks, including regulations and systems which once played an active role but are not out of keeping with the times. For instance, our party has always emphasized that the selection of cadres must meet the standards of morality and ability but, at different historical periods and under different political lines, the overall contents of morality and ability are not entirely the same. Today, we want to engage in modernization construction and we must select people who support and implement with determination the line, principles and policies established since the 3d Plenary Session of the 11th Central Committee, who meet the requirements for the four modernizations construction, who serve the people with total mind and heart, who are upright and fair and who possess relatively rich cultural and scientific knowledge as well as relatively strong organizational leadership ability and management capability. "Being more revolutionary, being younger in age, being better educated and being professionally more competent" are reflections of the standards of morality and ability in the new period. If we continue to follow past standards, we will undoubtedly tie our hands and prevent ourselves from selecting talents needed for the "four modernizations" construction in the thousands and tens of thousand. When we say "broaden the field of vision," we are asking ourselves to get out of the yoke of various forms and various types of conventions not in keeping with the times, broaden our vision according to the requirements and characteristics of modernization construction in the new period and discover talents from every area, select them and train them so that each of them will find his own place, fully demonstrate his wisdom and creativeness and contribute to the socialist modernization construction to his maximum limit.

Second, We Must Pay Important Attention to Knowledge and the Intellectuals.

To selecting outstanding young and middle-aged cadres is, in essence, to select outstanding young and middle-aged intellectuals. Right now, the progress in the work of selecting young and middle-aged cadres is not rapid. An important reason is the prejudice on the part of some of our comrades of looking down upon knowledge and intellectuals and their demand for perfection. Even today, some comrades still look upon the intellectuals as a force alien to the working class. They do not accept the fact that the intellectuals are the workers of socialism, and they do not treat them as a component of the working class. There are other comrades who think that the ideology of intellectuals has many faults, that they are arrogant and self-satisfied, that they consider themselves always in the right, that they lack leadership experience and that they are not suited for taking on important responsibilities. In the minds of these comrades, the intellectuals are not to be trusted and are troublesome and unsatisfactory.

If these prejudices are not corrected, the organizational line and cadre policy of the new period will not be fulfilled.

We should correctly evaluate the intellectuals in our country's socialist period. In the last several decades, the intellectual ranks of our country have gone through a series of basic changes. Through learning, actual work and party education, a very large number of the intellectuals from the old society have accepted Marxist education, have been actively serving socialism and have gone through long periods of training and trials since the founding of the People's Republic. Regarding those intellectuals we have trained ourselves since the founding of the People's Republic, there is even less reason to keep them outside the working class. Some comrades do not see these changes. They look at the present intellectual ranks from their "leftist" viewpoint and, even now, they still think that they should maintain a certain "distance" from the intellectual elements. This is of course erroneous. Events fully prove that knowledge and the intellectual elements were needed to overthrow the old world, and they are needed even more to build the new world. Particularly for a country like ours with its backward economy and culture, whether we can grasp modern scientific and cultural knowledge has become a decisive key in the success or failure of our modernization construction.

Our country currently has nearly 13 million cadres above the high school cultural level, representing 61 percent of all cadres. Among them, 4.2 million are persons with a college level of culture, or 20 percent of all cadres. Counting those who have achieved the levels of senior high school and higher and specialized institutions through self study, the number is even a little larger. A great majority of these comrades have good political qualities. They also possess a certain specialized knowledge and work experience and are shouldering heavy tasks on various fronts. Whether they are building the material civilization or the spiritual civilization of socialism, we cannot do without this contingent of troops. For these many years, despite poor working conditions, low wages and heavy responsibilities, they have maintained lofty aspirations, buried their heads in hard work and made contributions. We have no reason not to place our full political trust in this contingent of intellectuals and not to go all out to place them in important positions.

Some comrades often connect intellectuals with arrogance and self-satisfaction. They say the intellectuals are self-assured of their culture and very arrogant, set themselves apart from the masses and can not become great minds. This is a wrong way of looking at it. We must analyze this problem. Arrogance and a feeling of self-importance are of course not good. The problem is that some of our comrades treat problems that have nothing to do with arrogance and oppose them as arrogance. Arrogance is not an inherent fault of the intellectuals. People who truly have culture and knowledge understand that the universe is limitless and scientific knowledge is limitless. No matter how broad a range of knowledge a person may have, he is but a leaf on a big tree or a particle in the blue sea. The achievement of any person is only a development of the fruits of his forefathers or the crystallization of the wisdom and labor of people working in the present era. The communist ideological system is really a science produced on the foundation of summarizing the outstanding cultural achievements in human history. Arrogance and superciliousness have never been

the product of real knowledge and deep insight. On the contrary, they are always connected with ignorance and half-baked knowledge. Some comrades consider the intellectuals' characteristics of independence of opinion, respect for science and heightened self-confidence as "arrogance and self-satisfaction." This is wrong.

Third, Selection of Cadres Must Persist with the Mass Line.

Traveling the mass line must be the road to the discovery, selection and proper use of outstanding young and middle-aged cadres. During the organizational reform in the provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions, a major part of the areas extensively mobilized the various levels of leadership cadres and masses to recommend choices for the provincial-level groups, and very good results have been achieved. Events prove that within appropriate time limits, fearlessly mobilizing the masses to make democratic recommendations is the effective method of discovering and selecting talents. It is an important breakthrough in the reform of our cadre system and completely follows the public servant principle of Marxism that the people should make the selection and should supervise themselves. The Central Committee fully affirmed this experience and pointed out that this total adherence to the mass line in cadre staffing was the first time this has been done in several decades. On how to travel the mass line, the Central Committee mentioned six steps in its expression on the principles of staffing provincial-level leadership groups:

1. individual recommendation; 2. holding of small meetings; 3. polling of public opinion; 4. investigation by organizational department; 5. study by party committees; and 6. approval by upper-level agency. Outstanding talents exist among the cadres and masses. For this reason, generally speaking, the large cadre ranks and masses are in a better position to recognize and differentiate talents than are the leadership cadres. At present, the degree of awakening of the masses is very different from the past. As long as we present them with the conditions of cadre selection and as long as there is no interference by factions and unhealthy tendencies, public opinion can, to a certain degree, reflect the real situation objectively.

Fourth, We Must Establish a Cadre Reserve System.

The establishment of a cadre reserve system is a fundamentally important task in the selection of thousands and tens of thousands of young and middle-aged cadres. It has already been mentioned earlier that after the organizational reform and further reorganization of the leadership groups, a large gap still exists between the new leadership groups and the requirements of the four modernizations construction. Thus, the training and selection of a large group of outstanding young and middle-aged cadres and the further realization of the "four transformations" of the various levels of leadership groups remain an urgent task before us. At the same time, we must also recognize that within a few years a significant portion of the old cadres in the various levels of leadership groups will retire from their present posts. Without a necessary number in reserve, the phenomenon of a disjointed linkage will appear. The replacement of the new for the old among the cadre ranks will always be an objective rule, and the work of replacing the new for the old in the various leadership groups must be normalized and systematized. This requires that we establish and improve a system for various levels of reserve cadres. During

the current reorganization of the provincial-level party political groups, the reserve cadre lists established in the past by most provinces and municipalities played a very good role. Some of the cadres who joined the groups were selected from the reserve lists. However, currently this system is still not perfect. It is hoped that the various levels of party committees will properly take hold of this work.

The Organization Department of the Central Committee has given preliminary thought to seeking out a number of outstanding cadres as reserves for the top- and second-ranking positions at the department and provincial levels and for leadership groups in the Central Committee and state agencies as well as in the provinces. Various levels of party committees and party organizations in various departments also must establish and perfect reserve cadre lists under their individual control.

The selection of reserve cadres must be made with strict control over cadre requirements. The reserve cadres must have the same cadre requirements that are established in the Party Constitution and must be truly cultivated in the future. When making selections, attention must be given to selecting outstanding talents with different experiences and different specializations in party politics, economics, culture, education and the sciences. Woman cadres and cadres from the national minority regions must account for a definite percentage. Reserve cadres must be utilized without fear. At the same time, their regular evaluation and training must be strengthened, and, based on overall conditions, training plans must be established on an individual basis to supplement specific shortcomings and conduct training in specific directions. Solid and effective measures must be adopted so that before they are promoted, they will have had more opportunities for learning and training, achieved results in their actual work and increased their talent and ability in order to have a greater understanding from the masses and thus build a definite, creative foundation and prestige among the masses. The reserve cadre list is not a fixed one. New outstanding talents must be added whenever they are discovered. Cadres on the reserve list who have proved definitely inferior or who definitely do not have the requirements after evaluation must be taken off the list. Those who have met the requirements and are needed in work must be promoted and use on a timely basis.

The establishment of a reserve cadre system is an important foundation task for the selection of thousands and tens of thousands of outstanding young and middle-aged cadres. The proper development of this work is a guarantee of the system of cadre selection.

5974

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NATIONAL AFFAIRS

ATTENTION TO QUALITY OF MEMBERS BY COMMUNIST PARTY IN POWER DISCUSSED

Hangzhou HANGZHOU DAXUE XUEBAO [JOURNAL OF HANGZHOU UNIVERSITY] in Chinese
Sep 83 pp 8-11

[Article by Hu Huading (5170 5478 0002): "Trial Discussion of the Need of the Communist Party in Power to Pay Attention to the Quality of Its Members"]

[Text] The period when the party is in power is a special period in the development of the Communist Party. This period has its own special pattern. One of the important lessons is that the Communist Party in power must pay attention to the quality of its members.

In summarizing the revolutionary experience of the Paris Commune, Marx and Engels pointed out that when the proletariat gains political power, it must adopt strong measures to prevent its owner-workers from "seeking promotion and wealth" and prevent the state and state agencies from "changing from the public servants of the society to the masters of the society" (Selected Works of Marx and Engels, Vol 2, p 335). Our party has persisted in and developed the ideologies of Marx and Engels and has given serious attention to the quality of party members while in political power. In 1949, the party Central Committee and Mao Zedong repeatedly warned all party members to remember and learn a lesson from the defeat suffered by the Li Zicheng peasant insurrectionary army soon after it entered Beijing. The Second Plenary Session of Seventh CCP Central Committee specially reminded the entire party to avoid the feeling of being arrogant and self-satisfied, the feeling of having rendered outstanding service, the feeling of standing still without seeking progress and the feeling of seeking to lead a life of pleasure and not being willing to lead a life of hardship again and to be vigilant against attack by the "sugar bullets" of the bourgeoisie. It asked the entire party to be sure to continue to maintain the feeling of humility and caution and of not being conceited or impetuous and to maintain the style of hard struggle. For this, the Second Plenary Session announced its policy of preventing corruption on a timely basis. Subsequent events have proven that this decision of our party had a great deal of foresight. It provided the ideological preparation for the party to maintain its communist purity and to lead the people in carrying out socialist revolution and construction while it held political power.

Since the founding of the People's Republic, our party has paid even greater attention to the quality of its members in the course of exercising its political authority. Except for the 10 years of catastrophe during the "Cultural

Revolution," the party has engaged in strengthening itself and rectifying incorrect styles of work. Several times, the party has also announced standards to improve its members. During the first national conference on organizational work in 1951, Liu Shaoqi, representing the Central Committee, announced "the struggle for higher Communist Party membership requirements" and established eight standards of party membership. In his report on the revision of the party constitution during the Eighth Party Congress in 1956, Deng Xiaoping emphasized: "The victory for the party cause, the increased responsibility of the party for the people and the greater prestige of the party among the people all require the party to set higher standards for its members." The new Party Constitution established during the 12th CCP Party Congress has set even higher requirements for membership. The higher requirements for members in the new constitution are reflected in the entire constitution but are also encapsulated in Article 2. This article clearly establishes that "the Chinese Communist Party member is the front-line soldier of China's working class with a communist awakening." The party member "must serve the people with his entire mind and heart, must not be concerned with any sacrifice and must struggle all his life for the realization of communism." The party member "is forever a common member of the working people. Except for personal benefits and work functions and authority within the scope of the system and policy regulations, all Communist Party members must seek no private benefits or special rights." These regulations were not in the constitutions established by the Seventh and Eighth CCP Party Congresses. The strict requirements for party members in the new constitution are also reflected in their eight obligations. These include new elements added to meet the new historical conditions. Only by fulfilling these eight obligations will one become a qualified Communist Party member.

Why does the Communist Party in power have to pay attention to the quality of its members?

In a general sense, the member is the foundation of the party and the cell of the party organization. The quality of the member affects the fighting strength of the party, its prestige among the masses and its ability to carry out correct leadership. Only by paying attention to the quality of the member can the party's advancement be protected and its purity maintained. That our party has long been able to maintain its working-class vanguard character is most fundamentally because it is armed with Marxism-Leninism and the ideology of Mao Zedong and because it is formed by vanguard soldiers with a communist awakening in China's working class. The advancement of the party is the centralized reflection of the advancement of its members. At the same time, only by paying attention to the quality of its members can the party line, principle and policy be thoroughly carried out, because the line, principle and policy are relatively abstract but the actions of the members and cadres are concrete. The masses of the people think most highly of what is actually going on. They often come to understand our party through the actions and the daily lives of its members. If the members and cadres are the first to endure hardship and the last to enjoy, serve as the models for the masses everywhere and show concern for the sufferings of the masses, and that they are actually bringing the warmth of the party to the hearts of the masses, the masses will have a greater trust in the leadership of the party, will understand even better the meaning

of revolution and will treat the revolution as their most glorious banner. As the old saying goes, "if a person is upright, he will act without an order; if he is not upright, he will disobey despite an order." If the party members and cadres talk in one way but act in a different way, how can they be accepted by the people? The trust of the people will undoubtedly be lost. In this sense, paying attention to the quality of the party member and demonstrating the model vanguard role of the member and cadre will reflect the leadership role of the party.

In a special sense, it is because after coming to power, four changes have occurred:

First, our party's position has changed from one out of power to one in power.

Our party is a party in power and a leadership force of the state power of the people's democratic dictatorship. Since gaining political power over the entire country, the party's position has undergone a basic change. This change has provided a favorable condition for the development of people's affairs and party construction. This was a great event. The party led the people in a democratic revolution for 28 years, struggling arduously and with unsurpassed heroism, and many revolutionary martyrs gave their lives. The goal was to gain political power so that the people could be the master. However, exactly because the party's position has undergone a basic change, it has also brought a series of new problems to the work of party construction. Some party members use their authority to seek private gain and engage in all kinds of unhealthy tendencies, creating a very bad impression among the masses. Some members are contaminated with bureaucratic habits, set themselves above the masses and act like high officials and overlords. Some members claim credits and become arrogant, cannot resist the attack by the "sugar bullets" of the bourgeoisie and become the prisoners of bourgeois ideas. In summary, with the change in the party's position, its members and cadres are faced with a new test. Under this historical condition, paying attention to the quality of the party members and asking stricter requirements of them cannot be anything but an important measure for party construction.

Second, the environment has changed from one of war to one of peace.

Prior to gaining political power, our party was in a position of no power and in a ruthless environment of struggle. Party members were faced with the test of life and death all the time. Although individual opportunistic elements did get into the party, this ruthless environment made it impossible for them to last long in the party. Those who sought a name, gains and enjoyment and who were afraid of going to prison and being beheaded would not join the ranks and the party. This situation was a natural protective screen for party construction. The situation has now changed. In general, joining the Communist Party is not a test of life and death and does not have the dangers of the war years, and, moreover, some people believe that they have something to gain. The peaceful environment also makes it easy for some people to seek comfort and not be willing to go through an arduous life again, and they stagnate and do not seek improvement. At the same time, class struggle in our society still exists to a certain extent and so does the ideological influence of the

exploitating class. We are engaged in the policies of opening up to the outside and enlivening the economy within. These are Marxist policies favorable to accelerating the construction of the four modernizations. However, with the implementation of these policies, the mold of capitalism will unavoidably corrode our party organism. The corrosion and anticorrosion struggle will exist for a long time. We cannot avoid engaging in a long struggle against the corrosion of bourgeois ideas and of non-monopoly capitalism. Under this condition, only by paying attention to the quality of party members by the Communist Party in power can the awakening of the members and cadres be raised in their struggle against corrosion, can they firmly entrench their ideological "fence" and can the advancement of the party members be maintained.

Third, the task of the party has changed from engaging primarily in armed struggle and class struggle to engaging primarily in socialist modernization construction.

The general program of the Party Constitution specifies: "The work priority of the Chinese Communist Party is to lead all the peoples of the country in the socialist construction of economic modernization." The change in the party's work priority has made a deep impact on party construction. The new period and new task require the members and cadres not only to have a firm belief in communism and in the spirit of serving the people with total mind and heart but also to improve their own cultural and scientific level daily and to grasp the knowledge and techniques for the various undertakings of socialist construction. We must start with the realities of China's modernization construction and build a socialism with Chinese characteristics. Socialism is built by its practice, and socialism led by the party is also built by its practice. Marxism did not leave us with a ready-made plan for leading modernization construction. It must be continually sought after in our practice. For many comrades, things that we are familiar with must be set aside, and those we are not familiar with, we are forced to learn. If members and cadres do not have a higher scientific and cultural level and if they do not learn the democratic ways of managing affairs, they will be at their wits' end to lead the four modernizations and will even become the stumbling block of the four modernizations cause. Thus, vigorous learning to become both red and specialized is an important party element in the new historical period. Yet, to become both red and specialized is not really easier than not being afraid of blood sacrifices and resisting "sugar-coated cannons and bullets." It requires very great determination and what Marx called the spirit of "going to hell." We can see from this that paying attention to the quality of members by the party in power also includes requirements in the areas of science, culture and democratic management, so that the members and cadres will change from laymen to professionals. Those who are already relatively professional must also improve continually.

Fourth, the party organization has changed.

In the initial period of the founding of the People's Republic, the ratio of party members to the nation's population was 1 to 100. It is now 1 to 25. On the whole, the substance and the mainstream of the party ranks are good. Despite the very serious wound suffered by our party during the "Cultural

Revolution," the party has made a very great improvement since the Third Plenary Session. The fine tradition and working style of the party are being demonstrated. A large group of fine Communist Party members with strong party character, good working style, initiative and an ability to work with the masses have sprung up on the various fronts, and the prestige of the party is increasing daily. However, we must also recognize that a rather large number of members have joined the party since the "Cultural Revolution." Many comrades have not gone through the strict training in political life within the party and are not versed in party regulations and party laws. Many comrades who had joined the party before the "Cultural Revolution," even some leading cadres, also have relaxed their determination to hold on to the fine traditional style of the party and are not strict on their own requirements. On the other hand, under the socialist system, the ideological awakening and moral standards of the entire people have greatly improved. If the standards of the party members are not improved, it will be difficult to exhibit the vanguard character of the party and difficult to produce the model vanguard impact of the party members. The situation compels us to improve ourselves with great effort.

The facts show that the need to pay attention to the quality of members was decided by new conditions and new problems encountered by the party when it became the party in power and by the shift in work priorities. It was decided by the objective rules of the party's own development and reflects the requirements of the new period and the new tasks in party construction. Whether to pay attention to the quality of party members is, to get to the bottom of it, a question of what kind of a party we want to build. The 12th CCP Party Congress made it clear that we must build our party into a strong nucleus that will lead the socialist modernization construction. Paying attention to the quality of party members is actually an important strategic measure.

The new Party Constitution, approved by the 12th CCP Party Congress, summarizes the historical experience of party construction since the founding of the People's Republic as a strengthening of the program of party construction. Basically speaking, in paying attention to the quality of party members, our need is to be able to engage in our work according to the new party constitution and to be able to build our party properly. This work has several points that require our special attention:

1. Persist with the standards in developing party members. We need new party members not to enhance our appearance but to conduct serious work. The strength and influence of the Communist Party is determined not by the number of its members but by the quality of its members. Our party is a fortress that will open its gate to people who have gone through the test. As Lenin said: "We do not want any party members in name only even if given to us free. We are the only party in power in the world, a party of the revolutionary working class, which does not seek party members in quantity but pays attention to improving the quality of party members and cleans out 'people who have sneaked into the party.'" (Complete Works of Lenin, Vol 30, p 45). Our development of new members shall be based on the strict principle and process established in the new party constitution. "Neither do we permit bringing into the party in any way persons who do not meet party membership requirements, nor do we refuse anyone who meets those requirements." At the same time, we must strengthen the education, management and supervision of party members and "not allow any

special members who do not participate in the party's organizational life and who do not accept the supervision of the masses both inside and outside the party."

2. Strengthen the training of party character and become qualified Communist Party members. The eight obligations for members specified in the new party constitution reflect even higher ideological, political, organizational and work requirements. The obligations of party members are their responsibilities toward the party and the people. Whether a party member carries out the obligations in the Party Constitution is the centralized reflection of whether he is qualified. At the same time, whether a party member is qualified or not changes regularly. Through improvement of the awakening by education and by demonstration of his model vanguard impact in action, an unqualified party member becomes a qualified party member. Because of a lack of self-awakening in reform, an originally qualified party member will also become an unqualified party member or one not quite qualified. Here, the condition of being qualified once and for all does not exist. Therefore, a Communist Party member can only be a permanently qualified party member by reconstructing his objective world in a self-awakened manner and strengthening his party character training in learning revolutionary theories, firming up communist ideals and participating in the actual work of construction.

3. Proceed with party reorganization with planning and by steps and achieve a basic improvement of party style. Chen Yun [7115 0061] pointed out: "The party working-style problem is a life and death problem for the party in power." For every Communist Party member, the party working style is a reflection of the party's character in action. Many kinds of unhealthy tendencies exist in the party and they basically violate the party character principle of the Communist Party. Unhealthy tendencies are enough to damage the relationship between the party and the masses, and public feeling decides the fate of the party. If a determination is not made to break with unhealthy tendencies, a good relationship with the masses will not be established and it will also blunt the socialist initiative of the masses. Consequently, in order to improve the quality of party members, the important lesson in our party construction is to strengthen the education of the party members, carry out party reorganization firmly and achieve a basic improvement of the party's working style. The problems of impurity in ideology, working style and organization are solved through reorganization and working-style reform. This is the successful experience of strengthening party construction and improving the political quality of party members. Every one of our Communist Party members must conscientiously study the documents for party reorganization and the "Selected Works of Deng Xiaoping," solidly change his working style during party reorganization and cast himself in the mold of an awakened vanguard fighter of China's working class.

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CSO: 4005/154

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

KNOWLEDGE AND ADVANCEMENT OF PARTY

Nanjing QUNZHONG [THE MASSES] in Chinese No 17, 1983 pp 12-15

[Article by Chen Genxing (7115 2704 5281): "Knowledge and the Advancement of the Party"]

[Text] The new Party Constitution, approved by the 12th CCP Party Congress, stipulates that the first obligation of the party member is to study the ideology of Marxism and Mao Zedong conscientiously, to study the fundamental knowledge of the party and the party's line, principle, policy and decisions and to study science, culture and a profession. The new Party Constitution calls for higher requirements of knowledge for the party cadres. It stipulates that "the party cadres must accept party training" and must "have competent organizational ability, a high cultural level and specialized knowledge in leadership work." These stipulations correctly reflect the important significance of knowledge by the party troops in upholding the advancement of the party. They embody the objective requirements of persisting with the advancement of the party during the new period. They are very enlightening in our understanding of the advancement of the party and the mutual relationship between knowledge and the advancement of the party.

When speaking of the advancement of the party, people first understand it in terms of its basic elements in the political area, such as its communist program, its purpose of serving the people with total mind and heart, its concept of a high degree of organizational discipline and the working style that is closely related to the masses. This is undoubtedly correct since, if we depart from these political qualities, there is no way that we can talk about the advancement of the party. However, our understanding must be deeper. The advancement of the party should include another important element, i.e., a communist must possess a rich, advanced scientific and cultural knowledge. This point has not been understood by every comrade in the party. Some do not treat the academic and cultural quality of a party member as that important. A few of them even consider the advancement of the party and knowledge as being opposed to each other. Thus, it has become even more essential that we clearly understand, ideologically and theoretically, the mutual relationship between the advancement of the party and knowledge.

Maintaining the advancement of the proletarian political party has always been related to the academic level of its members and cadres. The proletarian political party is guided by the scientific theory of Marxism and is established on the

foundation of this scientific theory. The scientific revolutionary theory is the basic reason that the Communist Party exists and that it can possess and maintain its advancement. What is the scientific theory of Marxism? It is a scientific system established and developed on the foundation of the splendid fruits of the synthesis of the advanced ideas of mankind and its transformation. That Marx and Engels were able to create scientific communist theories was closely related to and inseparable from their grasp of the fruits of the social sciences and natural sciences historically created by mankind. The ideological system of communism is the crystallization of all the knowledge gained by mankind. Consequently, a Communist Party member must maintain his own advancement. If he is to be a communist soldier who truly grasps the Marxist revolutionary theories and also uses and develops them in his work, he must have in his grasp a rich scientific and cultural knowledge and continually absorb nutrients from the scientific and cultural developments of mankind. As Lenin said it well: "Only by enriching one's mind by the entire wealth of knowledge created by mankind can one become a communist."

The communist holds the transformation of society and the transformation of nature as his responsibility. As the nucleus of the people's revolution and construction and as the tool of the revolutionary class to complete their appointed historical mission in the appointed historical period, the party ranks are powerless to shoulder this important historical task without the perfect unification of these qualities in the two political and cultural areas. We know that understanding the world is the prerequisite to transforming it. Only by grasping the objective rules of the development of nature and society can we achieve success in our work and reach the anticipated goal of transforming the world. However, if we do not have a scientific knowledge of nature and society, attempts to grasp the rules of the development of nature and society will become only empty gestures. Consequently, for the communist to maintain the advancement of the proletarian political party and become the advanced soldier in the great work of people's revolution and construction, we must have a rich knowledge of the social sciences and the natural sciences, in addition to holding a firm position and having lofty convictions and noble ethics. In its long revolutionary struggle, our party has trained a group of outstanding leaders represented by Comrade Mao Zedong. They possess a high degree of theoretical and cultural training. They are adept in gathering together the wisdom of the entire party, and they have united the popular truth of Marxism with the concrete experiences of China's revolution to form a scientific revolutionary theory with Chinese characteristics, namely the Mao Zedong ideology. From a party where members with a petty bourgeois peasant background occupied the majority, our party built a strong and mature proletarian vanguard army armed with Marxism and led China's revolution from victory to victory under the guidance of the Mao Zedong ideology. From the standpoint of grasping scientific truth, our party has the most advanced scientific knowledge of mankind and has spread this knowledge throughout the party. This is the most intrinsic mark of our party with its revolutionary character and advancement. It is also where the strength of the party lies. We can say that knowledge is the inherent requirement of the advancement of the party itself.

In advancing social development, the requirement for knowledge in the advancement of the party does not stop at any one level. Based on the tasks of the

party in different historical stages, higher requirements are called for. During the democratic revolutionary period, the most important lesson facing us was how to develop the armed struggle and how to gain political power in the entire country. Faced with this historical task, the requirement for knowledge by the party emphasized the grasping of the revolutionary principle of Marxism and the grasping of social and military knowledge. Following the victory in the democratic revolution, the party became the party in power for the entire country. The party's task has changed from destroying the old world to building a new one. As a result, the priority of the party has shifted to leading the people in socialist economic construction, and a new change has therefore occurred in the party's requirement for knowledge. On one hand, the socialist construction cause requires a very great improvement in theoretical training for the entire party and the further study of Marxism in depth and systematically in order to explore ways to utilize and develop this knowledge during China's new historical period. It particularly requires a new summary of the latest results in social sciences and natural sciences in order to enrich and develop the scientific and cultural knowledge. The party must lead the people in building our country into a strong modern nation of socialism with a high degree of culture and a high degree of democracy by the end of the century. This is a higher, more complex and broader task required by the democratic revolution. It requires the continued arming of the party ranks with a variety of modern scientific and cultural knowledge. If we say that during the democratic revolutionary period the advancement of a communist was centrally exhibited in his grasp of the revolutionary theories and in the valiant struggle to overthrow the old world, then today, the vigorous grasp of modern scientific and cultural knowledge and the creation of a new situation of socialist modernization construction, with real ability and learning which are both red and specialized, are undoubtedly the essential requirements for a communist in persisting with his advancement under the new situation. If we depart from knowledge for the party ranks, we cannot lead the people to success in the modernization cause.

The transition from socialism to communism is a rather long historical process of continued development from a low level to a high level. The requirement for the quality of our knowledge in this process will be higher and higher. Faced with the swift and violent development of the social sciences and technology, the renewal cycle of knowledge is becoming shorter each day and people's ability to understand and transform the world is becoming stronger and stronger. Only by uninterruptedly arming oneself with the newest scientific knowledge and striving to make oneself a higher form of overall moral and intellectual development can a communist, who devotes his entire life in the struggle to achieve communism, push forward and accelerate this progress. Consequently, under this new historical condition, maintaining the advancement of the party cannot be separated from knowledge. Despite the fact that the overall improvement of our party's scientific and cultural level is currently limited by certain historical conditions in our country and requires a time-consuming process, if we do not begin now to understand the problem and ask for demands on ourselves, we will fall behind the requirements of the times. It will also be impossible for us to develop fully the advancing impact of the party.

We can see clearly from the above discussion that the advancement of the party is not separable from knowledge. Knowledge is exactly the essential requirement for the advancement of the party. Thus, the viewpoint that excludes knowledge from the advancement of the party or even considers it as standing against each other is extremely one-sided and is not beneficial to the strengthening of the party leadership. This type of one-sided viewpoint makes it impossible for one to strive to understand and grasp essential specialized knowledge and inevitably causes the party to fall into an empty hole of political preaching or to repeat the errors of blind leadership. It repudiates the need to improve the quality of knowledge of party members and impedes the party from using a scientific world outlook and methodology in understanding the laws of the development of objective matters and establishing correct principles and policies. It will be impossible to have a deep understanding of the important significance for the party's cadre ranks to achieve the four modernizations and will make it impossible for this important decision of the party Central Committee to achieve its true and thorough implementation. It will stifle the learning atmosphere within the party and cause the party to separate from the masses because of a lowering of the quality of knowledge. In one sentence, this one-sided viewpoint will weaken the central role of the party in the four modernizations construction under the new situation.

The reasons that the viewpoint exists in the party which considers the quality of the cultural knowledge of party members as not being that important, even to the extent of excluding knowledge from the advancement of the party, are twofold. One is that our party started from engaging in a class struggle and the political task was to lead the people in an armed struggle and to gain political power. For this reason, an extremely strong traditional viewpoint has been formed in people's mind which apparently considers the party as only a political group leading a class struggle, that what a member eats is a political diet and what he does is political revolution, that the most important thing for him is his class position and his political awakening and that no matter how low his cultural level might be it would not impede the overall situation. The second reason is that during the period of the erroneous "leftist" leaning the serious error in the party's proletarian dictatorship theory led to a deviation in its construction theory which inappropriately stressed that, in its socialist stage, the party was still a vanguard organization of the proletariat engaged in a struggle with its class enemy and which interpreted the awakening of the so-called class struggle as the only requirement of the party's advancement. This erroneous "leftist" leaning was utilized by the "Gang of Four" during the "Cultural Revolution" and caused knowledge and politics to develop in sharply contrasting manners and to reach an utterly absurd situation. The training of the party members in cultural knowledge not only was not considered an advanced quality but, on the contrary, became a symbol of backwardness and even of reaction. The fallacy that a man with greater knowledge was also a bigger reactionary created confusion in the people's scientific understanding of the advancement of the party. We cannot say that the prejudice within the party which looked down upon knowledge and treated educated elements as a dissident force did not come from the erroneous "leftist" theory. Thus, in order to meet the needs of the four modernizations construction and to accelerate the process for our cadre ranks and all party ranks to become knowledgeable, we must, united with the learning of the "Selected Works of Deng

Xiaoping," continue to eliminate the "leftist" view of looking down upon scientific and cultural knowledge, clear up the biases on the advancement of the party and correctly understand and handle the dialectic relationship between knowledge and the advancement of the party, so that we may further strengthen party construction and fully develop the model vanguard role of Communist Party members in the four modernizations construction.

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EAST REGION

LITERARY, ART WORKERS ASKED TO END SPIRITUAL POLLUTION

Hangzhou ZHEJIANG RIBAO in Chinese 9 Sep 83 p 1

[Article by Lin Xiaofeng [2651 2556 1496]: "Propaganda Department of Provincial Party Committee Calls on Literary and Art Workers to Study 'The Selected Works of Deng Xiaoping,' to Promote Creative Literature and Art and to Eliminate Spiritual Pollution"]

[Text] At a conference on literary and artistic work held in Hangzhou on 6 September, the propaganda department of the party committee in Zhejiang passed on to those present the gist of the remarks on the work of literature and art made by leadership comrades in the Party Central Committee; analyzed the situation of literary and artistic work in our province since the 3rd Plenary Session of the 11th Party Central Committee; pointed out the existing problems in the creative work of literature and art and in the ideological field; and asked the vast number of workers in literature and art, especially those who were party members, to study seriously the major points touching on literature and art in "The Selected Works of Deng Xiaoping," the report on the work of the government made by Premier Zhao Ziyang and the expositions of Comrade Chen Yun on literature and art and to initiate criticism and self-criticism campaigns in a proper manner so that literature and art may be further developed along the socialist path.

Luo Dong [5012 2639], member of the standing committee of the provincial party committee and head of the propaganda department, said at the conference that since the 3rd Plenary Session of the 11th Party Central Committee, literary and artistic work throughout the province has been developed in a healthy way and in line with the party policy. The quantity and quality of literary and art production have been upgraded year by year, the contingent of workers has continued to grow and the quality of art has continued to improve. He pointed out, however, that there exist among the literary and art circles in our province certain problems and undesirable trends which call for attention. In creative literature and art, for instance, the theme of love has continued to run basically unchecked. Works dealing with multilateral love affairs have grown in number. Certain works reveal mistaken viewpoints and unhealthy sentiments, justifying and dressing up relationships between men and women marked by fickleness and impropriety as acts of rebellion against feudalistic ideas, much to the detriment of morals in society. Some of the works, endorsing the theory of human nature and the humanitarianism espoused by the capitalist class,

reveal confused thinking in theory and concept. There are other works which fail to keep in step with the times, which wallow in the bitter experiences of the past or which show an erroneous satirical attitude toward certain problems which have emerged in the course of the forward progress in society in recent years. Works of this type are often low spirited, hazy in concept and lacking in artistic and uplifting appeal. Furthermore, the ideological-political work done by literary and artistic workers is of a low order. There are signs of impurity in thought, workstyle and organization. Works of art are commercialized and money has become the objective. Work in the field of literature and art is marked in various degrees by out-and-out egotism, a scramble for fame and profit, anarchism, a disregard for professional ethics, depravity in the lifestyle of individuals and moral degeneration.

He also cited the problem of carrying forward and absorbing the heritage of foreign and domestic literature and art in a discriminate manner. Although what is foreign served to broaden our views, we should take in only what was desirable. Ideologically, we must have a clear understanding of and a capacity to distinguish between what is good and what is bad. We must guard against and resist the corrosive influence of the reactionary literary and artistic trend of the capitalist class. The abstract and supraclass theories of "human nature" and "human love," which have long been denounced by writers on the Marxist classics, have once again appeared in our publications. We must take it as our duty to make known and to criticize such claptrap and not permit the unchecked inundation of what smacks of capitalist liberalism. We must have a proper standard for assessing the effects which literary and artistic works have on society. The number of ticket sales and the number of publications should not be the chief criterion for assessing the quality of literary and artistic works. The correct and basic standard for assessment is whether these works serve to promote the establishment of a socialist spiritual civilization, whether they contribute to the "four modernizations" projects of construction and whether they inspire resolute adherence to party leadership.

On the subject of literary and art criticism, Comrade Luo Dong pointed out that literary and artistic creation and the normal practice of criticism are complementary in nature, that they are the two wings which carry literature and art along the path of socialism, that critics should support and commend literary and artistic works which serve to promote the establishment of a socialist spiritual civilization and that they should adopt a militant stand in eliminating the spiritual pollution caused by a small amount of undesirable works and in exercising their power of persuasion by appealing to reason.

Comrade Luo Dong expressed the hope that by studying well Marxism-Leninism and the thoughts of Mao Zedong, by delving deeply into life and by learning from the people, the vast number of workers engaged in literature and art would create a larger volume of high-quality work so that a hundred flowers ablaze with colors would blossom forth in the literary and artistic fields of Zhejiang.

The conference was attended by over 200 cadres in the literary, artistic and journalistic units, professional writers and literary editors of the province.

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CSO: 4005/115

EAST REGION

ZHEJIANG PROVINCE READJUSTS WORK OF LEADERSHIP GROUPS

Hangzhou ZHEJIANG RIBAO in Chinese 13 Sep 83 p 1

Article by the Office of Leadership Groups for the Reform of the Organizations of the Localities and Cities under the Provincial Party Committee: "Zhejiang Successfully Concludes Program of Readjusting the Work of Leadership Groups in Various Localities and Cities"

Text After a period of half a year, the task of readjusting the work of leadership groups for organizational reform in 10 localities and cities throughout the province has been successfully completed.

In the readjustment and deployment of leadership groups, the various localities and cities strictly abided by the spirit of reform by adopting the policy of putting a premium on quality rather than quantity and on youth, knowledgeability and specialization. Members of the new leadership groups are of a higher political caliber and are more capable of conscientiously implementing the lines, principles and policies of the party. They are mostly men of action capable of breaking new ground and better equipped to perform their duties. Members of the new leadership groups have been reduced in number by one-fourth. Their average age is 47. Twenty of them, or over 16 percent of the new members of the leadership groups, are under 40. Seven comrades among the 20 are serving as chiefs or deputy chiefs in the localities and cities. An outstanding 31-year-old cadre has been made deputy secretary of the party committee in Zhoushan Prefecture, while a 29-year-old woman comrade has been selected as a new member of the leadership group in Taizhou Prefecture. The new leadership groups have been strengthened by a group of cadres knowledgeable in various specialized fields. The various localities have also selected people with professional skills to serve their special needs. The ancient cultural city of Shaoxing, for instance, selected a lecturer on the works of Lu Xun [7627 6598] as a member of a leadership group. In view of its need to develop ports for foreign trade, Ningbo selected a returned overseas Chinese engineer to assume a leadership position. To meet the need to develop forestry production, Lishui Prefecture selected a forestry administration engineer to assume responsibility for administration. A number of old comrades have been retained as members of the new leadership groups to facilitate the process of transition from the old to the new. This readjustment has served to solve the problems of unity and factional differences which had hampered some of the original leadership groups.

EAST REGION

NEED TO STEP UP 'STRESSES, BEAUTIES, ARDENT LOVES' MOVEMENT

Jinan DAZHONG RIBAO in Chinese 14 Sep 83 p 1

[Commentary: "We Must Further Broaden the Scope of 'Five Stresses, Four Beauties and Three Ardent Loves' Activities"]

[Text] Acting on instructions issued by the Party Central Committee and to meet the need to engage in depth in the "five stresses, four beauties and three ardent loves" activities in the province, the provincial party committee has officially decided to set up a Shandong Provincial "Five Stresses, Four Beauties and Three Ardent Loves" Activities Committee. This decision will greatly strengthen the leadership in initiating such activities, in bringing about a basic change for the better in the social climate, in giving impetus to the establishment of a socialist spiritual civilization and in ensuring the smooth progress of the four-modernization construction projects.

The launching of "five stresses, four beauties and three ardent loves" activities, which forms the core of communist ideological education, is essential to the establishment of a socialist spiritual civilization. It is a major channel for senior cadres to raise the consciousness of the thinking of the masses in order to develop a new socialist breed of idealistic, moral, cultured and law-abiding citizens. It is a major factor in changing prevailing social habits and customs and in reforming society. In recent years, the party committees and governments at various levels in our province--in conscientiously carrying out the instructions of the Party Central Committee, in exercising active leadership and in organizing large numbers of cadres and the vast masses to engage in the "five stresses, four beauties and three ardent loves" activities--have achieved notable results in promoting the establishment of a socialist spiritual civilization and industrial and agricultural production. The problem at the present time is a lack of balance in the development of such activities. Some comrades are not sufficiently aware of the significance of these activities and are at a loss as to how to approach such work in a proper manner; certain localities and units, acting in fits and starts, fall short of the mark in dealing with the relationship between mass activities and routine work; and certain localities and units, in dealing with what is "filthy, disorderly and erroneous," fail to find a solution to challenging problems in time due to the absence of an overall plan and a course of action. We must regard the solution of these problems as matters of great consequence. Under the guidance of the Party Central Committee, the provincial party committee and

the "Provincial" Five Stresses, Four Beauties and Three Ardent Loves" Activities Committee must do a good piece of work in promoting such activities in a down to earth manner because of its importance.

The provision of ideological education to promote patriotism and communism is the main purpose of such activities. We must have a firm grasp of the ideological problems reflected by the cadres, the masses and especially the vast number of young people and resort to various methods in approaching the work of promoting patriotism, in offering guidance to the people in fostering an ardent love for the party, the fatherland, the people and socialism and in strengthening the law-abiding spirit and heightening the awareness of the need to implement the lines, principles and policies of the party.

The setting up of units dedicated to the establishment of civilization is an important part of the "five stresses, four beauties and three ardent loves" activities and a good way to bring such activities to the basic levels as a systematized, routine matter. The work done during the last year or two has borne notable results in the establishment of civilized hamlets and civilized units throughout the province. We must make good use of our experiences in broadening and developing such activities in a down to earth manner. We must at the same time enlist the joint support of the military and civilian sectors in engaging in activities which serve to promote the establishment of a socialist spiritual civilization. This is a piece of pioneering work in the context of the new circumstances in strengthening the unity between the military and the government and between the military and the civilians. The various localities must cooperate with the garrison troops and the people's armed forces departments in approaching this work so that new ground may be broken during the year.

The major objectives of the "five stresses, four beauties and three ardent loves" activities are to engage in activities designed to deal with what is "filthy, disorderly and erroneous," to render sterling service, to maintain good discipline and to create an idyllic environment. The various localities must regard this as an important item on the agenda and approach the work of planning, organization and leadership in a conscientious manner. They must do a good job in enlisting the masses in promoting patriotic and public health activities; in the cleaning up, greening and beautifying the cities and villages; in engaging in the work of educational propaganda to promote the law-abiding spirit, observation of traffic regulations, improvement of public order and professional ethics; and in helping the various trades and businesses to improve their spirit of service and the quality of their services.

The launching of the "five stresses, four beauties and three ardent loves" activities in depth and on a sustained basis, a task which has a major bearing in invigorating the nation and in giving a new look to the various trades and businesses and the various types of work, requires the mobilization of all the forces in society. For this reason, the leadership cadres at various levels must take it upon themselves to strengthen their leadership, to take the lead in participating in such activities and, acting in concert with the vast masses, to promote the "five stresses, four beauties and three ardent loves" activities extensively and in depth in order to speed up the pace of establishing a socialist spiritual civilization in our province.

EAST REGION

PARTY OFFICIAL LAUDS SERVICES RENDERED BY RETIRED CADRES

Shanghai WEN HUI BAO in Chinese 10 Sep 83 p 1

[Article: "Hu Lijiao (5170 4539 2403) Calls for Making Full Use of Retired Veteran Cadres"]

[Text] At the first Working Conference of Veteran Cadres on September 6 to 9, the Shanghai Party Committee called on party committees at various levels to attach importance to the work done by veteran cadres; to make an adequate assessment of the historic role played by veteran cadres in the revolution and in the field of construction; to show concern for, take good care of and show respect to veteran cadres; to carry forward the glorious tradition set by veteran cadres; and to go one step further in enhancing the fine prevailing social custom of showing respect for the aged and the virtuous while directing their efforts toward the establishment of the two socialist civilizations.

The conference was attended by Hu Lijiao, second secretary of the municipal party committee, who also addressed the gathering. He said that the veteran cadres at various periods in Shanghai had served as pioneers in the Chinese revolution, that they had rendered sterling services to the party and the people, that they were the treasures of the party and the backbone of the socialist revolution and the projects of construction and that we should not forget the debt we owe them for the historic achievements they had made in the revolution.

Comrade Hu Lijiao said that with the assumption of leadership positions by a large number of young and middle-aged cadres, many veteran cadres have stepped down from the frontline of leadership posts. That being the case, new use should be made of their services. The party committees at various levels should give retired veteran cadres the opportunity to play their role to the full. Aside from being assigned to second-line positions as advisers or in other capacities to meet actual needs, a large number of veteran cadres should be allowed to assume various other specific duties and to engage in a wide range of social work, depending on the state of their health, their aptitudes and their interests. Veteran cadres should also be entirely free to adopt whatever measures are best suited to their circumstances to engage in social activities within their ability, to maintain close contact with the masses and to continue to play their role to the full. Party committees at various levels should at all times show political and ideological concern for retired veteran

cadres in their daily lives, try to understand their circumstances and needs after their retirement and show sympathy for their feelings and difficulties. In the development of production, they should interest themselves in the livelihood of the masses and, with due consideration for all concerned, help them to overcome their difficulties and worries.

Comrade Hu Lijiao stated that the work done for veteran cadres was the work of the entire party and society; that all parties concerned should attach importance to, show interest in and do a good piece of work for the veteran cadres; that they should seriously learn and direct their efforts toward publicizing the relevant decisions made by the Party Central Committee in setting up a retirement system for veteran cadres; and that they should bolster the commendable custom within the party and in society of showing respect for the aged and the virtuous as well as for retired veteran cadres.

Yang Ti [2799 1029], secretary of the municipal party committee, who presided over the conference, also made arrangements for the dissemination and implementation of the decisions made at the conference. An account of the work done for veteran cadres in the municipality was given to Zhou Ke [Q719 0344], head of the department of organization of the municipal party committee.

Present at the conference were the secretaries of the various departments, committees, offices, districts, counties, bureaus, universities and colleges and research units responsible for the various departments of organization and for the full-time cadres numbering over 700 people.

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CSO: 4005/100

SOUTHWEST REGION

SICHUAN PEOPLE'S CONGRESS HOLDS SESSION

HK231044 Chengdu Sichuan Provincial Service in Mandarin 2300 GMT 20 Dec 83

[Text] The Fourth Session of the Sixth Sichuan Provincial People's Congress Standing Committee opened in Chengdu yesterday. The principal agenda of this session includes hearing the report on the progress of the Third Session of the Sixth NPC Standing Committee; hearing the report jointly given by the provincial cultural department, the provincial radio and television broadcasting department, the provincial higher education bureau, the provincial education department, and the provincial public security department on the progress made in strengthening the building of socialist spiritual civilization and striving for a fundamental turn for the better in the general mood of society; examination and approval of the draft of certain stipulations on safeguarding the legitimate rights of women and children; and appointments and removals.

The session was presided over by Du Xinyuan, chairman of the Standing Committee of the provincial people's congress.

At yesterday's plenary session, Ji Chunguang, vice chairman of the Standing Committee of the provincial people's congress, transmitted the spirit of the Third Session of the Sixth NPC Standing Committee. Present at the session were Vice Chairmen of the Standing Committee of the Provincial People's Congress Qin Chuanhou, Zhang Xiushu, Liu Ziyi, Meng Dongbo, Liu Yunbo, Liu Haiquan, Liu Xilin, and Zhaxi Zeren. Present at the session as observers were Vice Governor Liu Chunfu, Vice President of the Provincial People's Higher Court (Zhao Lisan), Deputy Procurator of the Provincial People's Procuratorate (Wang Shanguo), and the responsible comrades of the organizations concerned at the provincial level. Also present at the session as observers were the [phrase indistinct] of the cities of Chengdu, Chongqing, Zigong, Dukou, Luzou, and Deyang, the autonomous prefectures of Garze, Aba, and Liangshan, and Zizhong County, Kaijiang County, and 29 other counties, cities, and districts. Also present at yesterday's session as observers were Vice Chairmen of the Provincial CPPCC Committee (Zhou Yi), Luo Chenglie, Xu Chonglin, and Ren Jinglong and some members of the provincial CPPCC Standing Committee.

CSO: 4005/285

SOUTHWEST REGION

SICHUAN MEETING HEARS REPORTS ON POLLUTION

HK220352 Chengdu Sichuan Provincial Service in Mandarin 2300 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Excerpts] The fourth meeting of the Sixth Provincial People's Congress Standing Committee held its second full session on 21 December to listen to reports from the provincial culture, radio and television, and public security departments, the higher education bureau, and the education department on strengthening the building of socialist spiritual civilization and striving for a fundamental turn for the better in the social mood. Committee Vice Chairman Qin Chuanhou and Zhang Xiushu presided at the meeting.

(Shu Tianwen), director of the provincial cultural department, gave a report on the situation in eliminating spiritual pollution in the province's literature and art work. He summed up the achievements in literature and art work in the province in recent years, together with the situation in spiritual pollution, and put forward measures for eliminating spiritual pollution and strengthening cultural construction. He said: There has been relatively great development in the province's literature and art in recent years. However, there is also serious spiritual pollution in some departments and units. Some people in literature and art circles are confused in their thinking; they have forgotten the sacred mission of literature and art workers, and are indifferent toward the party slogan that literature and art should serve the people and socialism. They advocate bourgeois liberalization and the commercialization of spiritual products, thus poisoning themselves, polluting the masses, and spoiling the social mood.

In order to eliminate spiritual pollution, the leading comrades of departments in charge of culture and the cultural and art workers must seriously study the decision of the 2d Plenary Session of the 12th Central Committee and the relevant important documents. They must understand the importance and urgency of eliminating spiritual pollution and enhance spontaneity to eliminate it.

In eliminating spiritual pollution, it is necessary to keep clear heads and grasp the policies. We cannot deviate from the orientation set by the policies and neglect the enrichment of the masses' spiritual life. We must take a positive approach and develop socialist culture and art. More outstanding works, performances, books, and paintings imbued with the spirit of the era should occupy the ideological and cultural position.

(Zheng Qiren), director of the provincial radio and television department, made a report on eliminating spiritual pollution and strengthening the role of radio and television in building spiritual civilization. He said: We must do well at coordinating our work with the struggle against spiritual pollution. We must strive to do a good job in radio and television propaganda, and strengthen control over audio and videotapes and recording equipment. We must strive to develop radio and television to meet the needs of developments at home and abroad.

(Wu Xuede), deputy director of the provincial public security department, made a report on cracking down on gangs of thugs using pornography for criminal purposes. (Hu Xiaofeng), director of the provincial higher education bureau, made a report on strengthening ideological and political work and eliminating spiritual pollution in institutes of higher education. (Ren Guilu), director of the provincial education department, gave a report on ideological and political work and the elimination of spiritual pollution in the province's secondary, primary, and teacher training schools.

Present at the meeting were Du Xinykn [as printed], chairman of the Standing Committee of the provincial people's congress, and Liu Ziyi, Ji Chunguang, Meng Dongbo, Liu Yunbo, Liu Haiquan, Liu Xilin, and Zhaxi Zeren, vice chairmen.

CSO: 4005/285

SOUTHWEST REGION

SICHUAN CIRCULAR ON ARBITRARY AWARDS

HK250319 Chengdu Sichuan Provincial Service in Mandarin 2300 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Text] On 19 December, the provincial people's government issued an urgent circular urging all localities to resolutely curb the practice of arbitrarily awarding money, food, and subsidies.

The circular states that since the beginning of this year, the situation of arbitrarily awarding money, food, and subsidies in some localities and units has been very serious. As the new year and Spring Festival are coming soon, this malpractice may spread if we do not adopt measures. Therefore, the urgent circular stipulates the following:

1. Leadership at all levels must, in connection with the study of the party rectification documents, fully understand the political, ideological, and economic harmfulness of arbitrarily awarding money, food, and subsidies, and correct the erroneous ideas of departmental selfishness, decentralism, and putting undue emphasis on caring for the welfare of the staff member and workers.
2. All units must carry out an in-depth and large-scale financial check-up in accordance with the decision of the State Council and the plan of the provincial government. All those awards and subsidies that violate the stipulations of the state and are arbitrarily formulated should be resolutely stopped. Those awards and subsidies that have been given away arbitrarily in the past must undergo serious check-up, and be properly corrected. In addition, it is necessary to grasp typical cases of violating discipline, and deal seriously with them. Those who repeatedly violate discipline must be seriously punished.
3. We must strengthen ideological and political work. We must extensively conduct propaganda in observing discipline among staff members and workers, and educate them in strictly implementing the systems and regulations of the state as well as in correctly handling the interests of the state, collective, and individual.
4. Auditing, financial, tax, and commercial departments and banks at all levels must conscientiously strengthen the work of supervision and examination. They must strictly examine and verify the expenditure of units which use funds. They must strictly examine and control groups' purchase of commodities.

SOUTHWEST REGION

SICHUAN CONGRESS STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING CLOSES

HK290527 Chengdu Sichuan Provincial Service in Mandarin 2300 GMT 27 Dec 83

[Text] The fourth meeting of the Sixth Provincial People's Congress Standing Committee closed in Chengdu yesterday. The meeting focused on building socialist spiritual civilization. It listened to a report conveying the spirit of the third meeting of the Sixth NPC Standing Committee given by Ji Chunguang, vice chairman of the provincial people's congress standing committee, and reports on strengthening the building of socialist spiritual civilization and striving for a fundamental turn for the better in the general mood of society given by responsible comrades from the provincial cultural department, the provincial radio and television department, the provincial public security department, the provincial higher education bureau, and the provincial education department. The meeting focused discussion on eliminating spiritual pollution, and approved some stipulations on protecting the legal rights of women and children in Sichuan.

At the plenary session yesterday, (Sun Zhifu), deputy secretary-general of the provincial people's congress standing committee, gave an explanation on matters concerning the stipulations on protecting the legal rights of women and children in Sichuan. The meeting also approved a list of appointments and removals. Liu Ziyi, vice chairman of the provincial people's congress standing committee, presided over the meeting and delivered a speech yesterday. The meeting was attended by Du Xinyuan, chairman of the provincial people's congress standing committee; Qin Chuanhou, Zhang Xiushu, Ji Chunguang, Meng Dongbo, Liu Yunbo, Liu Haiquan, Liu Xilin, and Zhaxi Zeren, vice chairmen of the provincial people's congress standing committee; and members of the standing committee, totaling 51. Present as observers were Gu Jinchu, vice governor; Zhao Lisan, vice president of the provincial people's higher court; (Wang Shanbo), deputy procurator of the provincial people's procuratorate; as well as responsible comrades of the people's congress standing committees of Chengdu, Chongqing, Zhigong, Dukou, Luzhou, and Deyang cities; Ganzi Aba, and Liangshan Autonomous Prefectures; and 31 counties, cities, and districts, including Jiangjin County and Kangding County.

CSO: 4005/285

SOUTHWEST REGION

YUNNAN PROPAGANDA WORK FORUM ON SPIRITUAL POLLUTION

HK260132 Kunming Yunnan Provincial Service in Mandarin 2300 GMT 22 Dec 83

[Summary] "From 12 to 22 December, the Propaganda Department of the Yunnan Provincial CPC Committee held a provincial propaganda work conference in Kunming. Present at the conference were the directors of the propaganda departments of the prefectural, autonomous prefectural, and city CPC committees, directors of cultural offices and the prefectural, autonomous prefectural, and city broadcasting bureaus and stations, responsible persons of the federations of literature and art circles and various newspapers, and the responsible persons of the provincial propaganda departments."

The conference studied the important speeches made by Deng Xiaoping, Chen Yun, and Deng Liqun and relevant documents, examined manifestations of spiritual pollution in Yunnan, carried out criticism and self-criticism, defined the policy governing the limits of the elimination of spiritual pollution, and discussed the opinions on overcoming laxness, slackness, and the rightist tendency.

Comrade Zhao Tingguang, deputy secretary of the provincial CPC committee, pointed out that spiritual pollution exists on Yunnan's ideological front, that the elimination of spiritual pollution is a component of party rectification, that comrades bearing important ideological responsibilities should make contributions to building the two socialist civilizations, and that there are important problems of a lack of an adequate understanding of spiritual pollution and of the existence of laxness, slackness, and rightist tendencies. He also pointed out the need to understand better the significance of eliminating spiritual pollution, to adhere to the four cardinal principles, and to make contributions to building a socialist spiritual civilization. In addition, "Comrade Zhao Tingguang made five suggestions for work in the future:

"1. After the conclusion of the conference, the comrades from various parts of the province must earnestly report to the party committees on the spirit of this conference, spare some time for studying the important speeches made by Comrades Deng Xiaoping, Chen Yun, and Deng Liqun according to the spirit of the relevant documents issued by the central authorities in addition to studying the documents on party rectification, and study Comrade Deng Xiaoping's important article entitled 'It Is Necessary To Adhere to the Four Cardinal Principles' in order to implement the four modernizations." Party members and cadres of key units must carry out criticism and self-criticism and summarize lessons and experience.

"2. As for the illegal activities of manufacturing, copying, circulating, or selling various obscene things, it is necessary to handle them according to the law.

"3. In the course of eliminating spiritual pollution, those good people who adhere to the four cardinal principles must be commended and those who violate the four cardinal principles, who go in for spiritual pollution, who resist criticism, or who refuse to turn over a new leaf must be criticized through notices of criticism and seriously handled.

"4. The slogan of eliminating spiritual pollution is not raised in the rural areas. However, it is necessary to solve earnestly the existing problems, to launch comprehensively and profoundly the five stresses four beauties drive, and to strengthen vigorously the building of a socialist spiritual civilization.

"5. Party committees at all levels must strengthen the party's leadership over the ideological front. The principal responsible comrades of party committees at all levels must pay attention to the situations, problems, and the work on the theoretical and literary and artistic fronts and to those on the ideological front as a whole. It is necessary to improve understanding, to unify thinking, to overcome resolutely the phenomenon of laxness and slackness, to have a correct grasp of the struggle on the two fronts, and to enthusiastically carry out criticism and self-criticism. The problems which exist on the ideological front can be solved and will not be too difficult to solve."

CSO: 4005/285

SOUTHWEST REGION

BRIEFS

GUIZHOU PEOPLE'S CONGRESS--The fourth session of the Sixth Provincial People's Congress Standing Committee held a plenary meeting yesterday morning. Committee members listened to a series of reports at the meeting, which included a report by (Li Min), head of the provincial culture and publication department, on the spiritual pollution in cultural and artistic work; a report by (Ren Biling), head of the provincial education department, on the elimination of spiritual pollution in order to train qualified people for the provincial foul modernizations; a report by (Yang Zhezhen), head of the provincial radio and television department, on the spiritual pollution in the provincial radio and television work; and a report by (Zhang Yuru), head of the provincial public security department, on heavy blows dealt at the criminal activities of producing, selling, and spreading pornographic magazines and videotapes and how gangs of hooligans make use of these things to commit crimes. The meeting was presided over by Luo Dengyi, deputy director of the provincial people's congress standing committee. Present at the meeting were other deputy directors, Wu Su, Zeng Xianhui, Yi Gulin, Ban Lin, Hou Guoxiang, Ren Ying, Wu Tongmin, Ran Yannong, Wang Bingyun, Wang Zhenjiang, and Liang Wanggui. [Text] [HK231513 Guiyang Guizhou Provincial Service in Mandarin 2300 GMT 22 Dec 83]

CSO: 4005/285

NORTH REGION

PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS OF POPULATION MEDICAL DATA OF BEIJING'S XICHENG DISTRICT

Beijing BEIJING YIXUEYUAN XUEBAO [JOURNAL OF BEIJING MEDICAL COLLEGE] in Chinese No 3, 1982 pp 227-233

[Article by Chen Yude [7115 5148 1795], Li Tianlin [2621 1131 7207], Zhang Min [1728 2404] and Liu Mian [0491 2758] (also of the Institute of Mental Health Research, Beijing Medical College), of the Hygiene Statistics Teaching and Research Section, Beijing Medical College and Song Weizhou [1345 4850 0719] of the Xicheng District Bureau of Public Health, Beijing Municipality]

[Text] Medical data on the population are the basis for establishing the health care workplan of an area. They are also important indicators for evaluating the results of health care measures, the health level of the residents and the area's hygienic condition. To plan and develop resident health care work and promote the continued improvement of the people's health, it is necessary to establish a standard population registration and statistical system, to accumulate data gradually and to conduct regular statistical analyses of this data. In coordination with the reestablishment of a teaching base and on the basis of data which can be collected now, we have made a brief but pertinent statistical analysis of the static data and trends of the Xicheng District population covering some of the years between 1950 and 1979 in order to evaluate the health level of the region's residents and the results of health care measures as well as to provide some basic information for planning the region's health care work.

Source of Data

The population data for the 1950's were obtained at the end of the 1950's from the related reports of the Office of Statistics, Bureau of Public Health, Beijing Municipality. The data on population, births and deaths after 1973 were obtained from registrations, annual reports and other related materials on the causes of deaths from the office of the Xicheng District Bureau of Public Health. After a survey of several organizations, the numbers of births and deaths based on registrations in involved departments were reconciled with the figures in the Bureau of Public Health. The data on population for 1953 are census figures. For the other years, they are cumulated figures from data on births and deaths. On the classification of causes of deaths, the data have been correlated to an accuracy of more than 80 percent and are therefore believed to have a certain degree of reliability.

Statistical Analysis of Data

1. Age and Sex Composition and Age Composition Index of Xicheng Region:

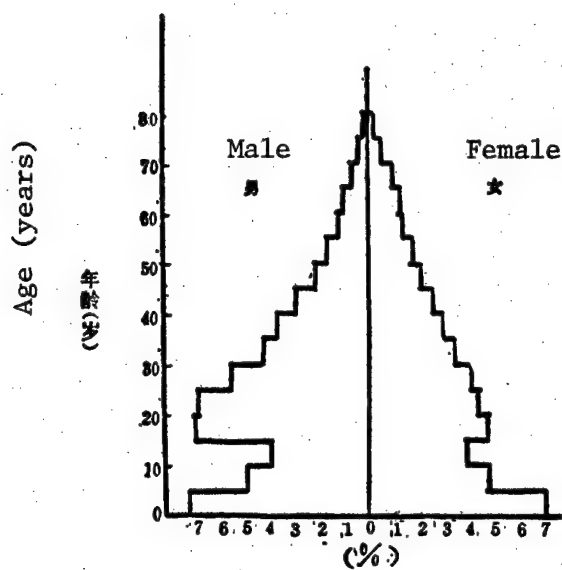
(1) Number and Sex Ratio of Population:

At the end of 1979, the population of Xicheng District was 726,187, which was 2.38 times that of 1950, or an average annual increase of 4.78 percent. This was obviously not simply the result of natural population growth. The increase had a close relationship with the mechanical movement of the urban population.

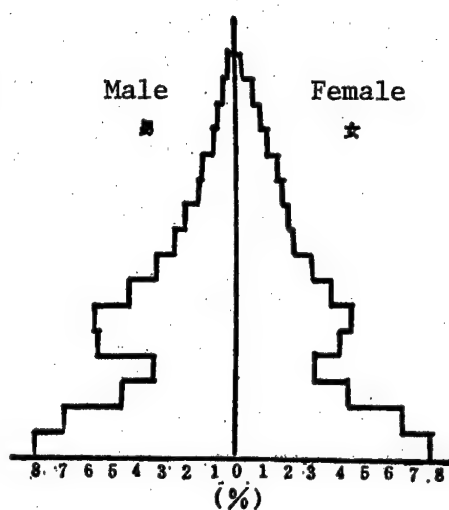
During most of these years, the sex ratio of the population was around 101 [number of males to 100 number of females], except for 1953 when it was 124.5 and 1959 when it was 106.7. The notably higher male population than female population in 1953 and 1959 was possibly related to the large number of males moving into the district in those years.

(2) Sex and Age Composition:

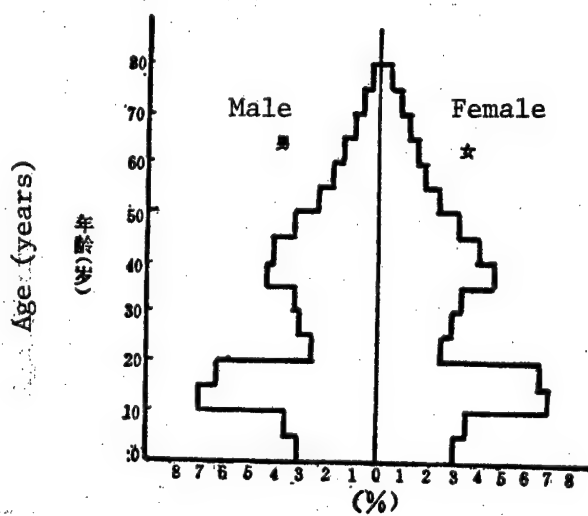
The sex and age composition graphs of different years present the district's population characteristics in those years and a composite picture of the historical development of natural and mechanical population changes in different years. The ladder-shaped sex and age composition graphs for Xicheng District in 1953 and 1959 (Graphs 1 and 2) are of the hyperplastic type represented by broad bases that become narrower. In 1953, the male population was 55.48 percent, and males in the 15 to 49-age range were notably greater in number than females. This was similar to the situation in Dongcheng District was primarily the result of mechanical population changes. The 1959 graph configuration shows a more even hyperplastic population composition. The depression showing the 10 to 24-age range was primarily the result of war. Very large changes in population composition occurred in 1973 and 1979. The base has become very narrow and the population composition graphs are in the shape of a tea kettle (Graphs 3 and 4). The 1979 population composition graph shows two bulges and two depressions. The cause for the depressions, representing males of 30 to 44 years and females of 30 to 39 years, is the same as mentioned above. The inverted ladder representing 20-year olds and younger was the combined result of the 3 years of economic difficulties from 1960 to 1962, the subsequent control of the birth rate through planned parenthood and the large transfer of personnel to lower levels during the Cultural Revolution. The large increase in the population of 20 to 29-year olds was because the country had entered into a period of planned economic construction after 3 years of economic recovery after liberation, the people's livelihood had become stable, the birth rate had increased, the death rate had gone down and a large number of personnel had moved in to meet the development of economic construction. From this, we can see that in the course of 26 years the population composition of Xicheng District had undergone a notable change in character. The 1979 sex and age composition graph of Xicheng District is similar to population graphs of countries and regions with more pronounced aging problems.



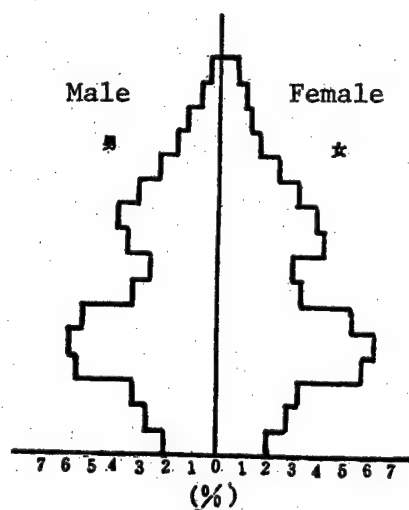
Graph 1. Composition of Population by Sex and Age, 1953, Xicheng Region



Graph 2. Composition of Population by Sex and Age, 1959, Xicheng Region



Graph 3. Composition of Population by Sex and Age, 1973, Xicheng Region



Graph 4. Composition of Population by Sex and Age, 1979, Xicheng Region

(3) Ratio in Age Composition and Age Composition Index:

Using the three age groups of 0 to 14, 15 to 64 and 65 and older to compute the ratios in the age composition of the population of Xicheng Region, the 0 to 14 age group was 31.5 percent in 1953 and had increased to 40.2 percent in 1964. Because of the vigorous advocacy of late marriage and planned parenthood in the 1970's, the ratio of the 0 to 14 age group has shown a notable downward trend since 1973. In 1979, it was already down to 16.4 percent. However, with the increase of the marriage age population, the natural population growth rate will rise again from now on and the ratio of the 0 to 14 age group will also rise again. The population ratio of the 15 to 64 age group has exceeded 70 percent since 1976. Judging by the situation in the current period, the ratio of the productive population is large and is in a favorable situation. The ratio of 65-year olds and older increased from 3.1 percent 1953 to 6.1 percent in 1979, an increase of 3.0 percent in 26 years. The 1979 ratio was equivalent to that in Japan during the 1960-65 period (5.7 to 6.3 percent). The 1978 population investigation data of Shannxi Province show that with 1 birth for each couple its population ratio of 0 to 14-year olds in the year 2000 will be 16.0 percent and that of 65 and older will be 6.9 percent. Xicheng District of Beijing reached this level 20 years earlier.

On Age Composition Index:

The young-population index $\left(\frac{0 \text{ to } 14 \text{ age population}}{15 \text{ to } 64 \text{ age population}} \times 100 \right)$ increased from 48.1 in 1953 to 72.3 in 1964. However, it has shown a notable decrease since 1973 and was only 21.1 in 1979. This trend will show the same change as the population composition of 0 to 14-year olds, and the forecast is that it will rise again during the coming period.

The old-age-population index $\left(\frac{65 \text{ and older population}}{15 \text{ to } 64 \text{ age population}} \times 100 \right)$ increased from 4.7 in 1953 to 7.8 in 1979.

Because of the large decrease of the 0 to 14 age population ratio and the slight increase of the 15 to 64 age population ratio, the population support index $\left(\frac{0 \text{ to } 14 + 65 \text{ years and older population}}{15 \text{ to } 64 \text{ age population}} \times 100 \right)$ has shown a downward trend since 1973. In 1979, it was 28.9. Based on an analysis of the district's population composition, the decrease of this index is possibly a temporary phenomenon. With the increase of the 0 to 14 and the 65 and older population and the decrease of 15 to 64-year-old population, the population support index will gradually increase.

The aging index $\left(\frac{65 \text{ and older population}}{0 \text{ to } 14 \text{ age population}} \times 100 \right)$ has gradually increased from 9.7 in 1953 to 37.1 in 1979. The 1979 figure was equivalent to the levels in Canada, the United States and Japan during the 1972-77 period (30.9 to 39.9; in 1980 Japan was 37). With the gradual increase of the ratio of the 65 and older population, population aging already exists in the region, but it is a hidden problem which has not received serious attention.

2. Natural Population Change in Xicheng District:

(1) General Birth Rate, Birth Rate Among Women of Childbearing Age and Natural Growth Rate of Population:

The general birth rate increased from 34.2 percent to around 40 percent during the 1950-57 period. It gradually decreased during the 1958-64 period. Since 1973, it has fluctuated around the 10 percent figure (see Graph 5). The lowest year (1976) was only 6.5 percent. In 1979, it was 10.1 percent, lower than the average of the municipal regions (14.04 percent in 1978) in the country for which data are available and close to the urban region of Beijing Municipality (9.81 percent in 1978). It is estimated that with the increase of the marriage-age and childbearing-age population the birth rate will rise again.

Since 1953, the rough birth rate among childbearing-age women has shown a notable decrease. In 1979, the rate was 80 percent lower than in 1953.

The changing trend in the natural population growth rate has been consistent with the birth rate (see Graph 5). The growth rate increased from 22.1 percent in 1950 to 33.9 percent in 1957. After 1973, the natural population growth rate remained below 5 percent. During the lowest years (1975 to 1977), the rate went down to 1.0 to 1.8 percent. In 1979, it was 4.6 percent, a decrease of 79.2 percent from 1950. However, this rate will also rise again with the rise of the birth rate.

Rate (0/00
[0/00 is number per 1,000]

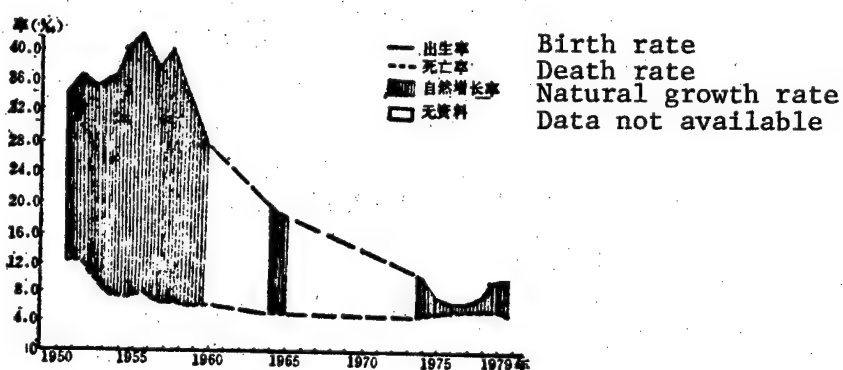


图 5 北京市西城区历年普通出生率、死亡率及人口自然增长率(%)

Graph 5. General Birth Rate, Death Rate and Natural Population Growth Rate (0/00) of Xicheng District, Beijing Municipality, by Year

(2) General Death Rate, Infant Death Rate and Newborn Death Rate:

Through the years, the overall trend of the general death rate of Xicheng District has been downward (see Graph 5), decreasing from 12.1 percent in 1950 to 5.5 percent in 1979, a reduction of 54.5 percent. In 1975 and 1978, the rate was similar to the average of the municipal districts (death rates of 5.61 percent and 5.27 percent, respectively) in the country for which data are available and slightly lower than the level of the overall Beijing municipal area (5.92 percent in 1977 and 5.84 percent in 1978). Since 1974, it has fluctuated between 5.3 and 5.7 percent, which is considered to be of a low level. (At the December 1980 Symposium on the Death Rate in Asia, it was believed that when the life expectancy at 0 age is more than 65 years, the overall death rate generally remains at around 7 percent.) To eliminate the effects of the sex and age composition on the general death rate, the population composition of 1964 was used as the standard to compute the standardized death rates for the several years during the 1953-79 period. On this basis, the standardized death rate in 1953 was 8.3 percent and in 1979 3.8 percent, a reduction of 54 percent. This was a true reduction of the death rate and not the result of any changes in age composition.

The infant death rate has shown a notable decrease since 1953, from 54 percent in that year to 12.3 percent in 1979, a reduction of 77.2 percent. The rates in all the years between 1973 and 1977 were slightly lower than the overall level of Beijing Municipality (11.6 to 10.1 percent). It should be pointed out that the causes for the slight increasing trend of the infant death rate in 1978 and 1979 need to be further analyzed in order to better strengthen the work on infant care and further lower the infant death rate.

The newborn death rate has also shown a notable decrease from 26.7 percent in 1953 to 7.8 percent in 1979, a reduction of 70.8 percent. In the years of 1973 to 1977, the rates were all lower than those of Beijing Municipality as a whole (6.1, 7.9, 5.2 and 6.5 percent). During these years, the newborn death rate was between 42 and 78 percent of the infant death rate. Since 1977, the newborn death rate has been between 61.8 and 78.1 percent of the infant death rate. It is worth noting that the newborn death rate has shown a slight increase in the last 2 years. In analyzing the causes, they are possibly: (1) fewer unreported newborn deaths; and (2) newborn deaths are related to the age of women bearing their first child, which indicates that we must strengthen health care work around the birth period.

(3) Death Rate and Death Ratio of Children under 5 Years Old and of Population of 50-year Olds and Older

The death rate of young children below 5 years old has shown a notable decrease since 1953. The rate in 1953 was 19.0 percent but went down to 3.6 percent in 1979, a reduction of 81 percent. It is generally believed the rate in countries and regions with good health conditions is around 2 percent. The death rate of young children below 5 years in Xicheng District is already close to this level. However, it should be pointed out that there has been a small increasing trend in the last 2 years. The causes for this should be studied and the health care work of women and young children must be further strengthened.

Changes in the death rate of the population of 50-year olds and older appear not to have been notable in these years. This indicates that the study of the prevention and treatment of old-age diseases should be strengthened.

The decrease in the death ratio of young children under 5 years old has been very notable since 1953. The ratio in that year was 36.8 percent but was down to only 2.8 percent in 1979, a reduction of 92.4 percent. This is due primarily to the rapid decrease in the death rate of young children under 5 years old. With the rapid decrease in the death ratio of young children under 5 years old, the death ratio of the population of 50-year olds and older has correspondingly increased, from 40 percent in 1953 to 84.6 percent in 1979. This ratio has reached the levels in Japan, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and the United States (82.2 to 84.7 percent). This means that the deaths of 50-year olds and older account for more than four-fifths of the population death rate. To reduce the overall death rate further, the health care for 50-year olds and older must be strengthened.

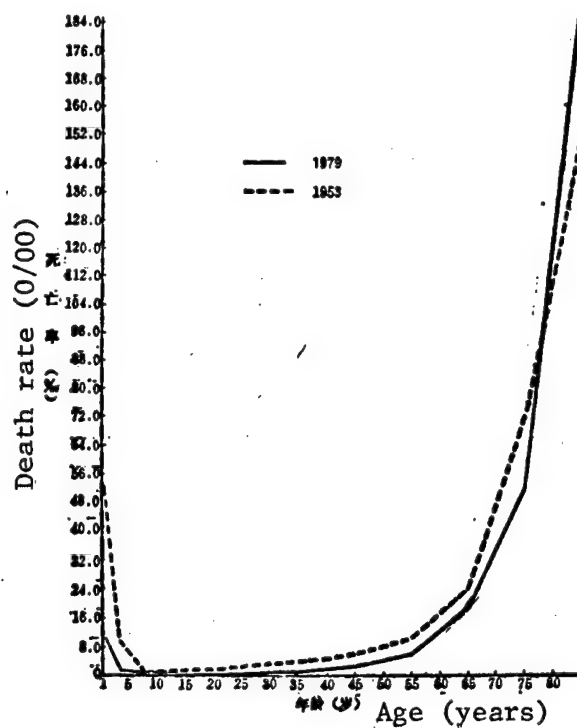
(4) Life Expectancy at Birth:

The life expectancy at birth is an important indicator of residents' health. The life expectancy at birth of male residents in Xicheng Region was 63.96 years in 1953 and 72.71 years in 1979, an increase of 8.75 years or 13.7 percent. For females, it was 64.21 years in 1953 and 75.23 years in 1979, an increase of 11.02 years or 17.2 percent. Judging from the partial yearly data for the period from 1953 to 1979, the average life of females has always been longer than that of males. In the years of 1953, 1958, 1959 and 1979, the life expectancy at birth of both males and females in Xicheng District was longer than that of residents in the Beijing municipal region for the respective years. In 1978, it was longer than the regions in the country for which data are available. It is generally believed that the life expectancy at birth of residents in countries and regions with advanced health conditions is over 70 years. Thus, the life expectancy at birth of residents in Xicheng may be considered to have already reached a relatively high level.

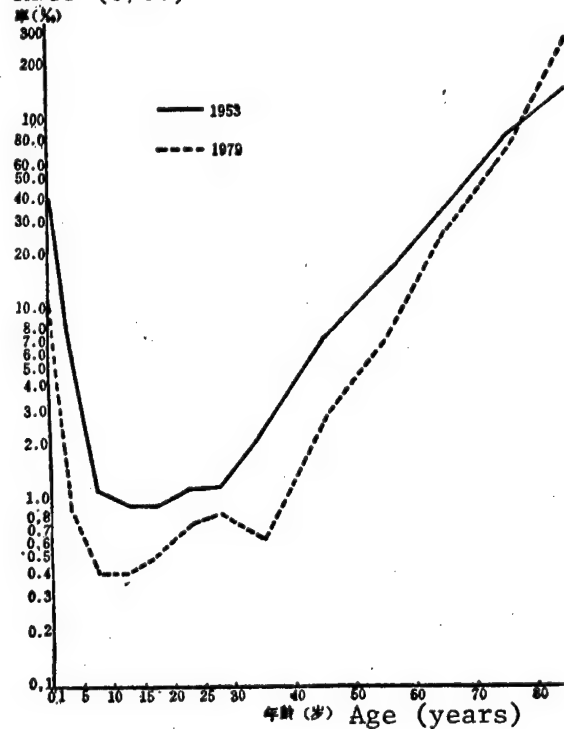
3. Death Rate by Sex and by Age:

According to an analysis of the death rate by sex and by age for 1953, 1959, 1975 and 1979 and the use of standardized death rates, the death rate of females in the region in 1953 and 1959 was higher than that of males. On the other hand, the rate for males was higher than that for females in 1975 and 1979. The death rate by age follows the general pattern and the curve for death rate by age is in the "✓" shape (see Graph 6). In a comparison of death rates by sex and age between 1979 and 1953 (see Graph 7), the death rates for all age groups below 80 years old were all lower in 1979 than in 1953. However, the decrease in death rate of the various age groups varied. According to an analysis of the death rates by age according to sex (see Graph 8), it was found that in 1953 the death rates of females in all age groups below 40 years old were higher than the corresponding rates for males. This was possibly related to the higher death rates of females than males in all ages below 40 years old from tuberculosis and other diseases. In 1979, the death rates for a great majority of the age groups were higher for males than for females. This was consistent with the general pattern in other countries and regions.

Graph 6. Death Rate of Males
by Age, 1953 and 1979,
Xicheng District,
Beijing Municipality

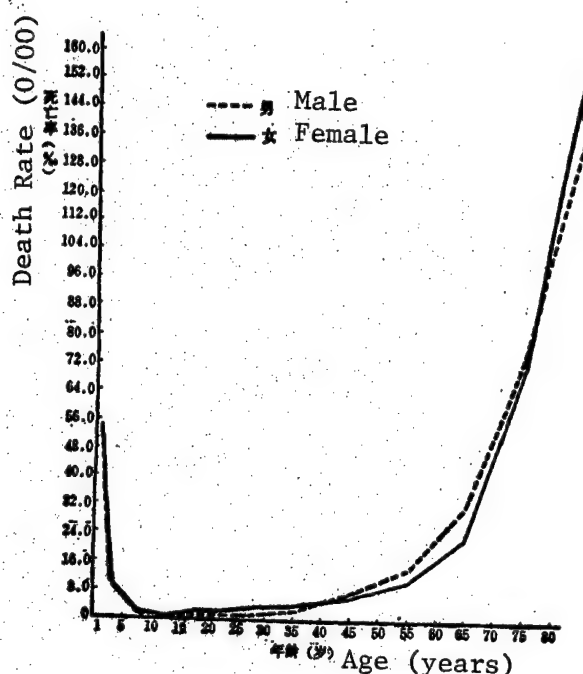


Rate (0/00)



Graph 7. Death Rate of Males
by Age, 1953 and 1979,
Xicheng District,
Beijing Municipality

Graph 8. Population Death Rate by Sex and Age, 1953, Xicheng District, Beijing Municipality



4. Death Rate by Cause of Death and Classification of Causes of Death:

The changes in death rates by cause of death and in the classification of causes of death for Xicheng District for the years of 1953, 1959, 1964, 1975 and 1979 have been analyzed. Over the 26-year period, the death rates in the region from acute infectious diseases (56/100,000 in 1953 and 5/100,000 in 1979), tuberculosis (97/100,000 in 1953 and 9/100,000 in 1979) and newborn diseases (66/100,000 [20.3/1,000 life births] in 1953 and 3/100,000 [3/1,000 life births] in 1979) have shown notable decreases (comparing 1979 with 1953, the decreases were between 89 and 95.5 percent). The death rates from pneumonia and other respiratory diseases, diseases of the digestive system, diseases of the blood and blood-making organs, diseases of gestation and childbirth, other diseases of the nervous system and rheumatism have also decreased in varying degrees. The death rates from afflictions involving blood vessels in the brain (62/100,000 in 1953 and 143/100,000 in 1953 and 137/100,000 in 1979) and malignant tumors (45/100,000 in 1953 and 113/100,000 in 1979) have shown notable increases (comparing 1979 with 1953, the increases were 67 to 150 percent). The death rates from external injuries, poisoning, mental disorder, congenital malformation and urinary diseases have also shown an increasing trend.

In the 26 years, notable changes had taken place in the rankings of causes of deaths of the residents in the region (see Table 1). The first seven rankings of causes of deaths in 1953 were pneumonia and other respiratory diseases, tuberculosis, cardiovascular diseases, newborn diseases, afflictions involving blood vessels of the brain, acute infectious diseases and diseases of the digestive system. Among them, tuberculosis, newborn diseases and acute infectious diseases accounted for about a third of the total death rate. With pneumonia and other respiratory diseases and diseases of the respiratory system, they

Table 1. First 10 Rankings of Causes of Death
Residents, Xicheng District
(1953, 1959, 1964, 1975 and 1979)

Ranking	1953	1959	1964	1975	1979
1	Pneumonia and other respiratory diseases	Pneumonia and other respiratory diseases	Malignant tumor	Afflictions involving blood vessels of brain	Afflictions involving blood vessels of brain
2	Tuberculosis	Malignant tumors	Cardiovascular diseases	Cardiovascular diseases	Cardiovascular diseases
3	Cardiovascular diseases	Cardiovascular diseases	Old age	Malignant tumors	Malignant tumors
4	Newborn diseases	Afflictions involving blood vessels of brain	Pneumonia and other respiratory diseases	Pneumonia and other respiratory diseases	Pneumonia and other respiratory diseases
5	Afflictions of blood vessels of brain	Acute infectious diseases	Afflictions involving blood vessels of brain	Diseases of the digestive system	Diseases of the digestive system
6	Acute infectious diseases	Diseases of the digestive system	Other illnesses of the nervous system	Diseases of the urinary system	External injuries
7	Diseases of the digestive system	Other illnesses of the nervous system	Tuberculosis	Tuberculosis	Diseases of the urinary system
8	Malignant tumors	Old age	Diseases of the digestive system	External injuries	Poisoning
9	Old age	Tuberculosis	Newborn diseases	Other illnesses of the nervous system	Tuberculosis
10	Internal secretion, malnutrition and metabolic diseases	Newborn diseases	External injuries	Acute infectious diseases	Other illnesses of the nervous system
% of total deaths	83.5	87.2	88.5	93.2	92.9

Table 2. Death Rates (1/100,000) by Cause Group and Comparison of Classification of Causes of Deaths, Xicheng Region

	Year	Total	Group A (Diseases of bacterial infection)	Group B (Adult diseases)	Group C (Illnesses during pregnancy, child- birth and infancy)	Group D (External causes)	Group E (Others)
Death Rate (1/100,000)	1953	739.8	289.4	278.5	286.9	26.6	99.7
	1959	625.1	191.9	301.5	104.4	19.0	88.5
	1964	489.2	89.7	287.0	-	18.8	72.4
	1973	462.2	53.3	301.6	9.1	18.8	85.8
	1974	529.1	79.6	369.6	19.8	14.8	59.0
	1975	543.0	80.3	377.9	17.7	36.6	43.1
	1976	551.7	65.1	393.2	9.5	59.9	30.7
	1977	570.0	70.0	404.8	14.4	54.4	36.5
	1978	559.5	69.5	394.4	23.3	47.2	41.3
	1979	552.9	63.3	404.6	20.3	49.2	29.0
Composition of deaths (%)	1953	100.0	39.11	37.65	9.13	0.64	13.47
	1959	100.0	30.70	48.24	3.87	3.03	14.16
	1964	100.0	18.33	58.66	4.37	3.84	14.79
	1973	100.0	11.54	65.25	0.56	4.08	18.57
	1974	100.0	15.04	69.87	1.15	2.79	11.16
	1975	100.0	14.80	69.60	0.92	6.75	7.94
	1976	100.0	11.80	71.26	0.52	10.85	5.56
	1977	100.0	12.28	71.01	0.76	9.54	6.40
	1978	100.0	12.43	70.49	1.26	8.43	7.38
	1979	100.0	11.45	73.18	1.23	8.90	5.24

Note: Group A: Includes infectious diseases, parasitic diseases, meningitis, flu, pneumonia, bronchitis and gastroenteritis.
Group B: Includes malignant organisms, benign organisms, undetermined organisms, afflictions of the heart, high blood pressure illnesses, afflictions involving blood vessels of the brain and old age.
Group C: Includes gestation, childbirth and puerperal illnesses, congenital malformation, childbirth injury, difficult labor and other oxygen deficiency and low-oxygen illnesses and other causes around the childbirth period.
Group D: Includes accidents, suicides and other external causes.
Group E: Includes all causes not included in Groups A, B, C or D.

accounted for only 25.5 percent of the total. In 1975 and 1979, the first three ranking causes of deaths were afflictions involving blood vessels of the brain, cardiovascular diseases and malignant tumors. They accounted for 67.9 and 70.9 percent of the total death rate, respectively. These were higher than the overall range (47.7 to 54.3 percent) of causes of deaths for the regions in the country for which data are available during the 1974-78 period. During the "Symposium on the Death Rate in Asia" called by the Western Pacific Region of the World Health Organization in December 1980, it was believed that those rankings of causes of death in countries and regions where deaths involving the circulatory system and malignant tumors account for 51 to 65 percent of the total are considered the "industrial society model." In 1979, tuberculosis had declined to the 9th ranking, but injuries and poisoning were among the first 10 ranking causes of deaths in Xicheng Region.

On death rate by cause groups and by classification of causes of death (see Table 2), and using Japan's "Indicators in the Promotion of People's Welfare" as a reference, an analysis was made of the residents of Xicheng Region based on the five cause groups of A (diseases of bacterial infection), B (adult diseases), C (illnesses during pregnancy, childbirth and infancy), D (external causes) and E (others). Data covering a number of years during the 1953-79 period show that the death rates and deaths under Groups A and C had declined notably. This means that the results in the work of prevention and treatment of infectious diseases and health care for women and infants have been outstanding. The death rates and deaths under Groups B (adult diseases include malignant tumors, afflictions involving blood vessels of the brain, cardiovascular illnesses etc) and D (external causes) have increased notably, especially those under Group B. The 1979 death rates by cause groups and makeup of causes of death in Xicheng Region were very similar to data on Japan in the 1970's. This provides us with the direction and priorities in our health care work.

(In addition to the above, preliminary analyses have been made on causes of death by age and the death rates for the six types of major afflictions by sex and age.)

Brief Summary

1. The population in Sicheng District in 1979 was 2.38 times that of 1953. Notable changes have occurred in the last 30 years in the population's age composition. Population aging already exists in the district, but it is a hidden problem which has not been given serious attention.
2. The birth rate and natural growth rate in the district are in the low level. However, since the population born during the high tide of the 1950's has been entering the marriage and childbirth period, it is predicted that the birth rate and natural growth rate will rise again in the coming period.
3. The general death rate, infant death rate, newborn death rate and the death rate of young children under 5 years old and their death ratios among Xicheng District residents have all decreased notably. The death ratio of the population of 50-year olds and older has increased notably. These reflect the fact that public health for the residents of the district has improved notably since

liberation. However, the overall death rate must be further lowered, and health care for infants and the young around the childbirth period and study on the prevention and treatment of old-age diseases must be strengthened.

4. Notable changes have occurred in the rankings of causes of death for residents in the district in the last 26 years. The first three rankings of causes of death in 1975 and 1979 were afflictions involving blood vessels of the brain, cardiovascular illnesses and malignant tumors. The analysis of death rates by cause groups and classifications of causes indicate that the work of prevention and treatment of adult diseases and health care for the old should be vigorously implemented. Also, effective measures must be adopted to prevent deaths and lower the death rate from external causes, and health care for women and the young must be properly carried out one step further without relaxation.

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NORTH REGION

BEIJING PEOPLE WANT MORE, BETTER LEATHER GOODS

OW220906 Beijing XINHUA in English 0851 GMT 22 Dec 83

[Text] Beijing, 22 Dec (XINHUA)--Stylish high-heeled boots with side zippers and sheep leather jackets for men and overcoats for women have found favor with young people in the Chinese capital this winter.

At a trial sales exhibition of new leather products now held in Beijing, the 100 new varieties on display have drawn large crowds of people. More than 900 pairs of high-heeled boots were sold out in just two weeks though the price is a bit higher than ordinary shoes.

According to the Beijing Leather Industrial Company which organized the exhibition, Chinese people, especially young men and women, now prefer more fashionable shoes and other leather goods, and they don't mind paying higher prices for good products, an official said.

Men's and women's shoes for other seasons, sports shoes and a new model walking shoes with foamed rubber heels designed especially for girl students are also selling well at the exhibition.

General manager of the company, Guo Zijiu, said the company has adopted some new designs and introduced modern technology and equipment from abroad in the past few years to improve the production processes.

The company is now producing more than 200 kinds of products for sale throughout China and also for export. To better meet the consumers' needs, the company will concentrate on new fashions and varieties in future while fully utilizing the ample supply of pig hides to make more quality goods, the general manager said.

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NORTH REGION

BRIEFS

DEMOCRATIC PARTY RUNS UNIVERSITY--Hohhot, 21 Dec (XINHUA)--A university, first institute of higher learning run by a democratic party in Nei Monggol, opened recently in Hohhot, capital of the Nei Monggol Autonomous Region. The university has 210 students and a faculty of 30. It offers two-year courses in the English language, preschool education and secretarial work. The English courses include intensive and extensive reading, conversation, aural comprehension and technical English. The school was founded by the regional committee of the China Democratic League, one of China's eight democratic parties. [Text] [OW211140 Beijing XINHUA in English 1030 GMT 21 Dec 83]

BEIJING EDUCATIONAL TU CONGRESS--Beijing, 23 Dec (XINHUA)--A four-day congress of the Beijing Education Workers Trade Union ended here today. In his report to the Fourth Congress of the union, Sun Jun, chairman of the preparatory committee for reestablishing the union, said the organization will try to improve the system of workers' congresses at educational institutions and safeguard the rights of its members. The previous congress was held in December 1962. But union activities were suspended during the "Cultural Revolution," from 1966 to 1976. There are 70 universities and colleges, 5,459 middle and primary schools and dozens of research institutions in Beijing. The total number of educational workers comes to 255,000. By the end of 1982, more than 1,800 local trade unions had been set up, taking in 241,000 members, or 95.3 percent of the total. The congress elected a new Standing Committee of the trade union. More than 240 deputies, elected by the local trade unions, attended the congress. [Text] [OW251000 Beijing XINHUA in English 1229 GMT 23 Dec 83]

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